

# Dayton's Bluff DISTRICT FORUM

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October 2007

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## Message from the Dayton's Bluff Bluffalo



Photo by Karin DuPaul

The Dayton's Bluff Bluffalo, also known as District Council member Jacob Dorer, wants to remind everyone about the District Council elections, potluck and annual meeting on October 15. See details on page 7. And also have a safe & Happy Halloween.

## Don't Forget!

**Vote in the District Council elections on Monday, October 15 and stay for the potluck dinner and annual meeting.**

**Contact Karin  
651-772-2075**

**karin@daytonsbluff.org  
See Page 7 for details**

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## Dayton's Bluff Walk-a-thon

**Saturday, October 6.**

**Contact Garry  
651-772-2075**

**Garry@daytonsbluff.org  
See Page 6 for details**

## Dayton's Bluff District Council - A House in Order

By Ed Lambert, Executive Director, Dayton's Bluff District Council

The League of Women Voters (LWV) of Saint Paul released its "Report on the District Councils in St. Paul" on September 10<sup>th</sup> in Saint Paul. *The Pioneer Press* article about the LWV report curiously emphasized the areas where the Councils could use some help, as if they are worn out and failing, but failed to get the bigger story. The Councils are still in place, still involving thousands of residents and businesses every year in local improvement efforts, and developing and running programs which continue to make a difference in city neighborhoods.

The big story is how much they have accomplished over 32 years, and continue to accomplish, in spite of limited resources; and in spite of the ongoing struggles to get the community's foundations and major corporations to ad-

equately and consistently work with them. Some foundations seem to think the Councils are undeserving of their support because of the close working relationship they have with city government. Yet it is just that close relationship which enables the Councils to be effective partners with motivated donors to get more civic engagement by under-represented minorities, as well as more effective action on local problems, concerns, and opportunities.

City financial support provides a meaningful funding base and all Councils consistently raise additional funds from various individuals, foundation, and corporate donors every year. Those efforts struggle to get the long term and substantial support needed from foundations and our larger corporations. Too often they see the Councils as a "quasi-government body" which should get **all** its funds from the city. They miss the point, however.

The city contracts with **independent non-profit agencies** (the District Councils) to work on city and community related issues and developments; and the Councils provide a network of organizations which can substantially leverage that support to make very effective use of donors' contributions to move farther, faster, and more effectively on local property, environmental, and people concerns.

The newspaper report identifies a number of recent problems which a few of the 17 District Councils have had, but is light on illustrating the fact

that most of the Councils are doing just fine.

The major issue for most Councils remains fully representing the diversity of the city's racial and ethnic groups and, in fact, fully engaging all the residents and businesses in their districts. This problem is endemic to a democratic system, and remains an important issue at all levels of government, and with community oriented activities throughout the world. The big news is not that the District Councils have this problem, but that they succeed in spite of it. Saint Paul's Councils are among the most persistent, determined, and successful organizers of local civic engagement in the U.S. Yet they would be the first to say we must do more.

Dayton's Bluff District Four Community Council is one of many in the city that has its house in order. Our annual financial reports are compiled by an outside accountant, all our financial and corporate reports are filed on time, our board gets monthly financial and program reports in writing, we are financially solvent, run effective and meaningful programs, and are fully engaged in the civic and community life of Dayton's Bluff.

We have two long-standing communication tools in place: a monthly informative newspaper (the *Dayton's Bluff District Forum*) mailed to nearly all residents and available free to everyone, as well as an established and

"House" continued on page 5

**Dayton's Bluff District 4  
Community Council  
798 East 7<sup>th</sup> Street  
Saint Paul, MN 55106**

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## Dayton's Bluff Community Meeting

The next Community Meeting is **Thursday, October 4** from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the meeting room at the Dayton's Bluff Community Council, 798 East 7th Street at the corner of 7th and Margaret.

The Dayton's Bluff Community Council holds its Community Meeting on the 1st Thursday of each month. The purpose is to work with block clubs and neighborhood residents on problem properties, criminal and nuisance behavior, code enforcement issues and any other neighborhood issues, concerns, or new ideas for improvement in Dayton's Bluff.

If you would like, you can email [Karin@DaytonsBluff.org](mailto:Karin@DaytonsBluff.org) or call Karin at 772-2075 with addresses of problems before the meeting. If I have the addresses of problems ahead of time I can get them to the police and NHPI (code enforcement). Then they can bring information about the problems to the meeting.

Remember, it's always on the 1st Thursday of the month. All Dayton's Bluff residents are welcome to attend. If you need more information email [Karin@DaytonsBluff.org](mailto:Karin@DaytonsBluff.org) or call Karin at 651-772-2075.

## Eastern District Meeting

On **Friday, October 19** the Eastern District Police will host their monthly meeting for community members. The meeting is intended as a time to listen to and address people's concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

The community meetings are held at the Eastern District police office at 722 Payne on the corner of Payne and Minnehaha Avenues on the third Friday of each month at 9:30 a.m.

## Glorious Food Giveaway

The Food Giveaway takes place on the **third Saturday of the month** at Mounds Park United Methodist Church, Earl and Euclid Streets. Doors open at 8:30 a.m. The Food Giveaway is from 10:30 to 11:30 a.m. Come and receive a free bag of food, no questions asked.

Listen to music while you wait. Communion is served at 10:00 a.m. for those who wish to participate. Call the church at 774-8736 for more information.

## Calling Crafters!!

**Cerinity Senior Care - Marian of Saint Paul is hosting their annual Craft and Bake Sale on Friday Nov. 16th from 10:00-3:00. If you are interested in a table please call 651-793-2116 for information.**

.....  
 • Opportunity Knocking!  
 • Volunteer Editor  
 • needed for this paper.  
 • Call 651-772-2075  
 • .....

## Register Early for Next Small Business Class



Pictured above is the graduating class from the spring 2007 Dayton's Bluff Microentrepreneur Class. Registration is already open for the spring 2008 class.

The Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Class is taking applications for the spring class. This program helps start-up and young businesses on the East Side. All East Side entrepreneurs are welcome.

Class room training lasts 8 weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, how to creating a successful business, and preparing a business plan, plus 8 hours of one on one time with the instructor to work on your business concept. 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 and works of art, custom floral design for weddings and events, and exterior and interior painting. The course is sponsored by the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and the Neighborhood Development Center. There is a registration fee based on a sliding fee scale. The next session will start in April. Class size is limited, so do not wait to apply. For an application, call Karin at 651-772-2075 or email [Karin@DaytonsBluff.org](mailto:Karin@DaytonsBluff.org).

## Minnesota Rocks! Sculpture Dedications at Mounds Park on October 16

Minnesota Rocks! Sculptures created through the 2006 International Stone Carving Symposium will be formally dedicated in September and October at public sites throughout the City. Public officials, neighborhood organizations, artists and musicians will all be part of the festivities.

"15 artworks were completed in summer, 2006 and it has taken considerable time and resource to install so many sculptures," notes Public Art Saint Paul President Christine Podas-Larson. "Some required special bases, protective sealants, and special work on the surrounding sites."

The two sculptures in Indain Mounds Park on Mounds Boulevard will be dedicated on **Tuesday, October 16** beginning at 5:00 p.m. The celebration will begin at Usumacinta River Visiting the Mississippi (El río Usumacinta visitando al Mississippi), the sculpture by Javier del Cueto of Mexico, located on Mounds Boulevard at McLean. The celebration will be officiated by Saint Paul City Councilmember Kathy Lantry and officials of the Mexican Consulate will lead the program, along with members of the Dayton's Bluff Community Council. Artists of the Mexican community will perform.

The celebration will move up Mounds Boulevard via Capital City Trolley to Sacred Bowl, the sculpture by Duane Goodwin located on the hill across from the pavilion near Earl St.. Goodwin is a member of the White Earth Band of Ojibwe. Native American flute player John Romer will perform as part of the ceremony. As the sun sets, a pipe ceremony will be held. For more information email [Karin@DaytonsBluff.org](mailto:Karin@DaytonsBluff.org) or call Karin at 651-772-2075.

All events are free and open to the public. For information on all Minnesota Rocks! sculptures and dedications including a map: [www.minnesotarocks.org](http://www.minnesotarocks.org) or for information about Public Art Saint Paul: [www.publicartstpaul.org](http://www.publicartstpaul.org)

**The Dayton's Bluff  
District Forum  
Wants Your News,  
Photos and Articles  
About  
Organizations  
People  
Events  
Opinions  
Businesses  
Neighborhood Issues  
Contact  
Karin for more info at  
651-772-2075**

*The Dayton's Bluff  
District Forum* is now  
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Dayton's Bluff businesses  
and households **FREE !!**  
Your 5" x 4" display ad  
gets to over 6500  
addresses for only  
**2 cents per address.**  
Other size ads are also  
available  
Include the *Dayton's Bluff  
District Forum* in your  
advertising plans.  
Contact  
[Karin@daytonsbluff.org](mailto:Karin@daytonsbluff.org)  
Or call 651-772-2075

## Church Directory

**Amazing Grace Assembly of God**  
1237 Earl St.  
651-778-1768  
Sun 9:30 am - Sunday school all ages  
Sun 10:30 am - morning Worship  
Sun 6:00 pm - evening Worship

**Hmong Asbury United  
Methodist**  
815 Frank St.  
651-771-0077

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church**  
655 Forest St.  
651-776-4737  
Sun 9:00 am - Morning Service  
Sun 10:15-11:15 am - Sunday School & Bible Hour  
Sun 11:15 - Hmong Service

**Faith Temple - Templo De Fe**  
1510 Payne Ave  
651-778-0096  
Sun 10:30 am - Spanish Bilingual Service  
Sun 6:00 pm - Spanish Bilingual Service  
Wednesday family night

**First Lutheran Church ELCA**  
463 Maria  
St. Paul, MN 55106  
651-776-7210  
1 block North of Metropolitan State  
Sun 8:00 am - Free Community Breakfast  
Sun 9:30 am - Worship service  
Sun 10:45 am - Education for all ages  
Handicapped accessible  
ALL ARE WELCOME!

**Mounds Park United Methodist**  
1049 Euclid St.  
651-774-8736  
9:15 am - Sunday School, 4-year-old through Adult  
10:30 am - Worship

**Our Savior's Lutheran 'LCMS'**  
674 Johnson Pkwy  
651-774-2396  
Sunday Worship - 9:15am  
Education Hour - 10:30 am  
Wednesday Worship - 6:30 pm

**Sacred Heart Catholic Church**  
840 E. 6th St.  
651-776-2741  
Sat 4:00 pm - Mass  
Sun 9:00 am - Mass  
Mon, Wed, Fri 8:00 am - Weekday Service

**St. John's Catholic Church**  
977 E. 5th St.  
651-771-3690  
Mon-Sat 8:00 am - Daily Mass  
Sat 4:15 pm - Mass  
Sun 9:00 am, 11:00 am - Mass

**St. John's Church of God in Christ**  
1154 E. 7th St.  
651-771-7639  
Sun 9:30 am - Sunday School  
Sun 10:45 am - Worship  
Wed 7:00 pm - Bible Study

**St. John Ev. Lutheran**  
765 Margaret St.  
651-771-6406  
Sun 9:30 am - Worship  
Thurs 6:30 pm - Worship

### Welcome to the City of Saint Paul, "Access Saint Paul Corner" by Angela Burkhalter

**PED Mission Statement:** To actively create opportunities and encourage investment for the benefit of Saint Paul residents and businesses, which preserve, sustain, and grow the city's diverse neighborhoods, <http://www.stpaul.gov/depts/ped/>.



#### Central Corridor Development Strategy won a Minnesota American Planning Association Honor Award.

The Minnesota Chapter of the American Planning Association, is happy to announce that The City of St. Paul Central Corridor Development Strategy, received an Honor Award (their highest award) at the statewide annual conference.

#### St. Paul Central Corridor Strategy HONOR

The broad geographic extent and diverse existing land use patterns create challenges in articulating a vision for this transportation corridor. The plan, however, rose to the challenge, resulting is a set of "Big Ideas" in which to invest. The reviewers recognize the extraordinary degree to which the planners brought in public input and developed building strategies. They also appreciate the large format to maximize the use of graphics.

Judging was performed by five members of the Iowa chapter of the American Planning Association. Details about the conference facility and schedule can be found on the Chapter's Website at [www.mnapa.com](http://www.mnapa.com).

Minnesota Chapter of the American Planning Association  
William Weber, AICP, Director of Community Planning  
McCombs Frank Roos Associates  
14800 28th Avenue No., Suite 140, Plymouth, Minnesota  
55447

[bweber@mfra.com](mailto:bweber@mfra.com)

Please visit [www.stpaul.gov/centralcorridor](http://www.stpaul.gov/centralcorridor) or [www.metrocouncil.org](http://www.metrocouncil.org), click on the Central Corridor icon.

**PED Corner questions or comments, contact:**  
[angela.burkhalter@ci.stpaul.mn.us](mailto:angela.burkhalter@ci.stpaul.mn.us)  
or call 651-266-6700 or 651-266-5566

#### EVERYDAY HEROES: FEATURING DEVELOPER RICHARD COPELAND, SUNDAY, OCTOBER 14TH, 6 PM.

**Ordinary Heroes** is the first in a series of 10 television programs focused on specific individuals and their life story. The first five in this series are scheduled to focus on African American male heroes.



The program celebrates the professional and personal paths taken by "ordinary heroes" and the public organizations that supported them along the way. **Richard Copeland, owner of Thor Construction** is a success story of the City of Saint Paul Construction Partnering Program (CPP) that began with the Excel Energy Complex. In addition to two current projects in Saint Paul, The Old Swedish Bank Building on Payne Ave. and the Bonnie Jean Condominium renovation on 7th Street, Copeland has continued his relationship with M. A. Mortenson Co. on the New Twins and Gopher Stadium Projects. For more information on our *Construction Partnering Program*: [www.meda.org](http://www.meda.org) or [www.stpaul.gov/mbdr](http://www.stpaul.gov/mbdr)

**DID YOU KNOW...** Today, a third of Saint Paul's residents are minorities, a figure that doubled in the past 15 years. The city's business community has changed dramatically as well, and many of its older commercial strips are now home to new ethnic entrepreneurs serving new and existing markets.

The Emerging Markets Economic Data highlights the buying power of ethnic communities in the City of Saint Paul. [Saint Paul American Indian Economic Data](http://www.stpaul.gov/business/mbdr/), [African American Economic Data](http://www.stpaul.gov/business/mbdr/), [Latino Economic Data](http://www.stpaul.gov/business/mbdr/), [Mexican American Economic Data](http://www.stpaul.gov/business/mbdr/) documents are located at <http://www.stpaul.gov/business/mbdr/>.

**CONTACT YOUR SAINT PAUL HOME LOAN FUND FOR:**  
MORTGAGE FORECLOSURE PREVENTION, REHAB, FIRST TIME HOME BUYER PROGRAMS, ETC. AT 651-266-6626

## Mounds Theatre is Rockin' in October

Hometown Theatre presents the revival of their original stage production of *Rockin' at the Sock Hop* at the Mounds Theatre this October 5 – 27.

*Rockin' at the Sock Hop* tells the story of Sivle Yelserp, a nerdy high school boy who is tragically accident-prone until he discovers Rock 'n Roll music. Within the course of one week, Sivle manages to mess up a radio broadcast, is challenged to a car race, and after being visited by an angel who shows him his past, discovers that he might have it within himself to win the big singing contest at the Homecoming Dance. Of course, along the way Sivle falls head over heels in love.

#### Showtimes:

Friday, October 5, 7:30 PM  
Sunday, October 7, 2:00 PM  
Friday, October 12, 7:30 PM  
Saturday, October 13, 7:30 PM  
Thursday, October 18, 7:30 PM  
Sunday, October 21, 2:00 PM  
Friday, October 26, 7:30 PM  
Saturday, October 27, 7:30 PM

#### Ticket Prices:

\$20 for adults (\$18 for seniors and students)  
\$10 for children (12 and under)  
\$15 group rate (8 or more)

To order tickets contact Hometown Theatre at (763) 767-0444 or [info@hometowntheatre.org](mailto:info@hometowntheatre.org). For more info about *Rockin' at the Sock Hop* visit [www.hometowntheatre.org](http://www.hometowntheatre.org).

The Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106. Visit [www.MoundsTheatre.org](http://www.MoundsTheatre.org). 651-772-2253.

## Mounds Park United Methodist Church Celebrates 150 Years

Mounds Park United Methodist Church will celebrate its sesquicentennial anniversary on Sunday, October 21st at 3:00 p.m. Bishop Sally Dyck will be the speaker. Following the service, there will be an opportunity for fellowship, and historical displays may be viewed.

Mounds Park United Methodist Church, located at the corner of Euclid and Earl is a merged congregation with the former Holman United Methodist Church which was located at Bates and Euclid. Holman Methodist Episcopal Church traced its roots back to 1882 with Rev. F.O. Homan as the first pastor.

What is now Mounds Park United Methodist Church was founded in 1857 by a missionary minister from the Wisconsin Conference of the Evangelical Church. It was located at Pine and Eleventh in downtown St. Paul and was commonly known as the Pine Street Church.

In 1917, after changes in the downtown neighborhood, the church property was sold to Great Northern Railway. Lots were purchased in the newer residential area of Dayton's Bluff and a new building was finished in 1921. At that time, the church was known as First Evangelical Church. After several denominational mergers it has been known since 1968 as Mounds Park United Methodist Church. Rev. Victor Waters is the current pastor

Everyone is welcome to attend this celebration of many years of ministry in the Dayton's Bluff Community.

### Blessing of the Animals Oct. 14 in Mounds Park

Each October many communities around the world lead a procession of animals, everything from dogs and cats to hamsters and even horses, are led to churches for a special ceremony called the Blessing of the Animals.

This custom is conducted in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures. It is celebrated in October around the Feast of St. Francis in honor of the humble priest who loved all of God's creation.

This October 14th at Indian Mounds Park from 3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m. Mounds Park United Methodist Church will host a Blessing of the Animals. There will be a couple of hymns, some scripture reading, a prayer for endangered species, and the chance for your to bring your pets forward for a prayer of thanksgiving that we will offer to the Creator on their behalf.

You may bring a live pet or a picture of a current or past pet. There will be cold water for the human guests and a treat for each pet. All are welcome to this celebration of creation. If you have any questions call 651-774-8736.

## Matt Glowacki to speak at Metro State University

In observance of Disability Awareness Month, October 2007, Metropolitan State University is hosting a motivational speech by Matt Glowacki entitled "Diversity According to South Park and Family Guy" on Tuesday, Oct. 4, at the Saint Paul Campus, 700 East Seventh Street, Founders Hall, Auditorium, from 3-5 p.m.

Glowacki, a native of Janesville, Wis., was born healthy but without legs. From a very young age his parents provided him with every opportunity to participate in a normal life. He got a Bachelor of Arts in communication with an emphasis in public relations and a minor in history from the Univ. of Wisconsin-Whitewater.

During his time at the university, he also developed and administered a community awareness program entitled "What It Takes: Cornerstones for Success."

Glowacki now puts most of his energy into business and competitive sports. He earned a position on the 2000 USA Paralympic Team for sit-volleyball in Sydney, Australia, and the 2002 World Championships in Cairo, Egypt, and he now gives presentations to audiences ranging from high school students to business professionals in an effort to offset the cost of training and traveling with the Paralympic Team.

In addition he operates three separate businesses: MOGO wheelchairs, a successful wheelchair building and sales business; Glow Music, a mobile disc jockey and entertainment service; and Myriad Communications, his speaking and consulting company.

Admission is free and open to the public. Persons with disabilities who need a reasonable accommodation to participate should call Disability Services at 651-793-1525 or 651-772-7687 (TTY).

## Something Fishy in Dayton's Bluff History Or Down the Fish Hatchery Road



A 1903 map by the Saint Paul Parks Dept. shows the looping carriage road (right of center) and several smaller walking trails that connected Mounds Park with the Fish Hatchery and its waterways down below. The pond (left of center) shown in Mounds Park was located where today you find a fire pit. Mounds Boulevard had not yet been built.

By Steve Trimble

Not many people today are familiar with the State Fish Hatchery that was once one of the most popular tourist attractions in the metropolitan area. Willowbrook, as it was called, was started in 1878 by the new State Fish Commission, and was located at the foot of Mounds Park.

Raising fish to stock the lakes and streams of Minnesota was—and still is—an important state function and the site below Dayton's Bluff was an almost perfect spot for such activity. The hatchery utilized ponds to catch the flow of Willow Creek that came flowing out of the bluffs.

In addition the nearby Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul railroad tracks that made it easy to ship fish throughout the state. By 1894, 1,212,000 Brook Trout and 31,600,000 Walleye Pike had been produced and distributed. People came from all over the Twin Cities to stroll around and look at the fish.

The following 1886 selections from a diary kept by the Hatchery staff give some idea of the work activities and show the large number of visitors. The mention of people from "neighboring camps" probably refers to the frequent gathering of "hobos" near the railroad tracks:

"August 1st—Sunday, we began our new year with a bright and beautiful day and a large number of visitors from the city and some others from the neighboring camps less welcome by far—but all received due attention.

Tuesday and the following days we were all busy at construction of a new hatchery building and fences, whitewashing, waiting upon visitors and hurrying on the work as fast as practicable.

August 9th.—We received from Commissioner A. W. Aldrich, of the Iowa Fish commission, a pair of golden Ides, a beautiful addition to our ornamental and attractive fishes kept for

the pleasure and gratification of visitors. They are a pale creamy golden tint and quite like in shape to the golden carp or gold fish so universally admired.

August 16th.—Began finishing the fence about the grounds to keep out the railroad marauders and protect our property from depredation....

December 29th.—Spawned the last of the brown or German trout, the fry of which we will keep for breeders until we have a stock from which to raise for general distribution."

The hatchery had started out on a few acres of rented land with a few hastily built structures. Even so, its importance was recognized and at an early stage and, according to one newspaper, "Minneapolis conceived the idea of purloining the hatchery and worked up a scheme prior to the 1901 legislative session" to do so.

But St. Paul acted to keep the institution here and under the leadership of State Representative W. W. Dunn, prepared a countermove. With the help of the Commercial Club and "many public-minded citizens" Dunn and others "engineered a private subscription" for the purchase of a number of acres of land that was donated to the state provided they continued to raise fish on it.

The development of the city park soon located above boomed the tourism at the Hatchery. State legislation in 1885 allowed St. Paul to establish a park board and they promptly set to work. Putting together many scattered lots in today's Indian Mounds Park took time and in some cases ended up in court.

However, the new Board reported that by 1885 enough land in the area had been procured for a fifteen-acre site. They rightly suggested that "an interesting feature might be added to this park if it were found practicable to contrive a roadway of easy gradients connecting it with the state fish hatchery in the valley below it which

attracts a multitude of visitors throughout the season. It is but 1,300 feet from the park, but it would require a roadway half a mile long winding from the top along the slopes of the hill to reach it at convenient grade."

The 1901 annual report of the Park Board announced that 35 new acres were added to Mounds Park. "These acquisitions extend it eastward to the boundaries of the beautiful tract of 22 acres on which the State Fish Hatchery is now permanently established," it said and proudly added that "for all practical purposes, when the contemplated road connections are constructed according to plans mutually agreed upon by the Game and Fish Commission and this board, become a portion of Indian Mounds Park, although not under the jurisdiction of this board."

A newly planned Hoffman Avenue (today's Mounds Boulevard) would extend through the park and would also "by an easy descent to the picturesque grounds of the fish hatchery. Heretofore the Fish Hatchery has been very difficult of access by reason of the steepness of the only roadway to it through a precipitous ravine."

A year later another annual report affirmed the goal of "the completion of the road through Indian Mounds Park to the State Fish Hatchery, much the largest and most expensive portion of which was graded... last year. The road," it continued, "which has a grade of only a little over 4 per cent, is an admirable piece of road and landscape engineering, commanding a succession of charming and changing views along its winding course."

The 1903 report: "The Fish hatchery grounds, with their propagating ponds, fed by streams of pure water, gushing from the neighborhood hills, have for many years been an object of great interest to the public, but it was only accessible by a steep and difficult road, subject to frequent washouts, until the adjacent lands

came under the jurisdiction of the Park Board, when it at once set about the construction of a convenient road of easy grade to the Fish Hatchery."

This road was planned and constructed by Superintendent Nussbaumer. The route from the park to the hatchery below it revealed "a series of delightful views as it winds around the crests and slopes of the hill." It was nearly completed.... "It still remains to be adorned with trees and shrubbery and its naked cuts with turf. When finished, it will be one of the pleasantest driveways in the city."

The Fish Hatchery now contained sixty-two acres. The city's annual park report described the "meadowland at the foot of the triangular sweep of hills... from whose bases gush the many copious springs of the purest water which flow directly or through pipes into the fish ponds. Of this large area, twenty-two acres was purchased a few years ago and donated to the state by citizens of St. Paul."

There were two ways to get to the Hatchery from the park. There was "a fine carriage road of easy grade winding down around the sinuous slopes of the hills and commanding charming views at every turn." It leads to the central gate of the hatchery." There had been an earlier road, but it went through a narrow ravine, was too steep for heavily loaded teams and often had washouts after a big rain.

There also was "a footpath through a picturesque ravine which forms a shortcut for pedestrians to the western gate of the hatchery" and "a still better and shorter one is to be made in the future." When the city taxpayers came to the aid of the hatchery "it was understood and expected that the state would make reasonably liberal provisions for the improvement of the hatchery... for nearly all its buildings are in a state of decay."

"Hatchery" continued on page 5

"Hatchery" continued from page 4

The Legislature eventually did get around to funding improvements and the work at the Hatchery continued and expanded. After a few years they even added a small zoo with several kinds of Minnesota animals.

Ed Kraemer, a long-time resident of Dayton's Bluff penned some memories of the Fish Hatchery for the Forum before his death in the 1980's. As he remembered it: "On beautiful and balmy Sunday afternoons in pre-World War I years, Dayton's Bluff residents had the walking craze for there were few motor cars."

"Whole families walked to Indian Mounds Park, thence down the long and steep pathway to the fish hatchery where there were several outdoor pools containing large fish, the likes of which some of us had never caught."

"Once or twice during the summer, neighborhood boys would follow the cliffs along the bluff from Plum Street all the way to the Fish Hatchery, dangerously clinging to the sides of the sandstone with hands and toes. Many promises were made to never again pursue such folly, but there would always be another time."

The 1920's brought some modernization to both the Park and the Hatchery. Both were prompted by the increased use of automobiles. In 1923 the section of Mounds Boulevard through the Park from Thorn to past the pavilion to Earl Street was paved. In 1926 the road down to the Fish Hatchery was rebuilt to better accommodate cars instead of carriages and a new flight of stairs was constructed from the railroad yards to the top of the bluff.

By the 1930's the ability of people to use those automobiles to travel fur-

ther away for their recreation led to a decline of interest in trips to the Hatchery. However there were still visitors—some of them unwelcome—who were drawn to the fish—raising area. Some of them were adventuresome boys. "Who knows how many fish graced the family table because of a fish line down the pant leg of a bib overall of an adventuresome boy?" one person later commented.

According to old-timers, during the 1930's the railroads also brought many transients to the Willow Brook area. The "hobos" would camp out in caves below the bluff or in some gully protected by brush.

One man said that "the breeding stock in the raceways was a tempting morsel for these hungry men, which obligated the workers of the hatchery to guard with shotgun against any "hanky pank.... During the evening hours, warning blasts could be heard from the shotguns to scare away the hungry intruders."

Today the fish hatchery is still there, but its operations have been greatly reduced. They still hatch Muskies and raise them to fingerling size before sending them to state ponds for further development. The Walleyes leave as fry, as very small ones are called.

The zoo is long gone and Warner Road cut through the center of the site during the post-war era. The road and the trails are over-run and their remnants are barely visible, but could be resurrected at some future date. There is still one large pond and in case you ever wondered about it, that's where the fish that are in the DNR's State fair display spend the rest of the year.

If any readers have Fish Hatchery stories or photos that you would be willing to share, please contact Karin DuPaul at 772-2075 or Steve Trimble at 774-2096 and we'll try to get in next month's paper.

## Pastor Hamilton BBQ: It's for the Kids



By Chad Stahlman

I am very interested in food, and BBQ is something that I have always had a hard time with in Minnesota. I am from Texas and BBQ there is something of legend. So, when someone asks me for lunch at a random BBQ restaurant I get a bit skittish and usually politely decline requesting something else like hamburgers or my old standby, The River Room inside Macy's. Well, this time my boss recommended Pastor Hamilton's BBQ and I said I would give it a shot. So, the next day I invited an old friend of mine, a native to Saint Paul, to join me on this adventure, and away we went.

The restaurant is located at 1154 E. 7th St. As we pulled up to the restaurant I noticed that the sign that actually got my attention was Pastor Hamilton's church sign that claimed that the BBQ restaurant was next door. I was already impressed. I like any person who is involved with people in any positive way.

We entered the restaurant and were politely greeted by Pastor Hamilton himself. We talked a bit about where I was from. He told us a little bit about himself as well. I was impressed again. My friend Tom ordered the basic lunch special that Pastor has each day; today it was a pulled beef BBQ sandwich. I ordered the full 3-meat platter; this comes with brisket, chicken breast and ribs. Both of these meals come with Jo-Jo potatoes or baked beans, your choice. After we ordered, Tom and I sat down and the food was brought to us about 5 minutes later.

The pulled beef sandwich was stuffed with beef on a po-boy bun. There was very little fat and his BBQ sauce was abundant. My friend said it was absolutely delicious and that he would certainly return for this bargain BBQ deal.

My meal, the platter, was amazingly tasty. Each of the three different meats were cooked correctly temperature wise; nothing was cooked too much or too little. The brisket was outstanding as were the ribs. The chicken was also a nice break from the beef on the plate. Pastor's Jo-Jo beans are wonderfully spiced and the perfect accompaniment. Pastor also offered a spicier sauce for me as he knew I was from Texas and might want something with a little more kick.

The bottom line is: Pastor Hamilton's BBQ is a bargain and the best BBQ in Saint Paul. It's reasonably priced and delicious. I will certainly return for more.

Pastor Hamilton has done a lot for this community and the others that he has been involved with. I sat with him for

about an hour talking. He was born in Arkansas and his family lived in a town called Camden. He grew up working with food and made his way to Saint Paul through different jobs cutting meat. He first showed up in Minneapolis as a butcher instructor in the 80's. He then made his way to Saint Paul after working there a few months. Finally he opened his first BBQ shop on Selby Ave. and then made his way to Dayton's Bluff. He is currently the Pastor of his church and he combines the business and the church to help the kids in the community in several ways.

First, he has his "Project Fresh Start" program that helps children in the community get to college with funding through donations. Second, every third Sunday is "Kids night out," This is where the children come with their families and the kids get to pick a place to eat. If the children choose to eat at the BBQ place, Pastor will have the kids plan and maybe help cook for all the folks that showed up. All meals on this day are free to all children who show up.

Finally, Pastor Hamilton is working on a food shelter for the needy families in our community. This is his major priority at the moment and he needs a bit of help getting it together. Beaver Lake Lutheran Church has already donated about \$600 to this program but he needs about \$2000 more to buy the actual buildings to store the food and build the walk in freezer.

If you would like to help please call 651-771-7639. That is a direct line to his church office. You can also make donations via his website at [www.pastorhamiltonbbq.com](http://www.pastorhamiltonbbq.com). All of this is non-profit and tax exempt and a great way to help your community. Pastor Hamilton will gladly give you any information you might need. Also note that most of the profits from his BBQ sales at the restaurant go to his programs to help the children and to stay afloat in the business world, all at the same time.

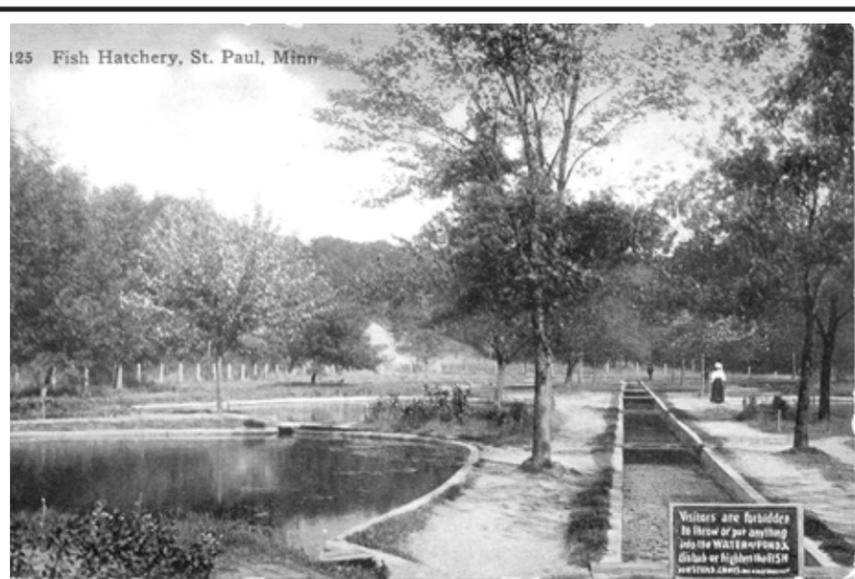
"House" continued from page 1

informative website. Check it out at [www.daytonsbuff.org](http://www.daytonsbuff.org). The *Forum* actively seeks news and articles from individuals and organizations in the Bluff about things in the Bluff, or issues of concern to the Bluff. We also make extensive use of email communications and plan to add an E-Newsletter to our communications toolbox this year.

Many other Councils also have communication tools in place they make effective use of, not withstanding the statement in the *Pioneer Press* article that the Councils are "not communicating very well." Sure all of the Councils could use some help, some more than others, however it is not the big story.

The big story, restated, is the effective ongoing engagement of thousands of residents and local businesses in making their communities better, stronger, and more livable every day in a myriad of small and large ways. Dayton's Bluff District Four Community Council is the Bluff's agent for civic engagement on local concerns, an agent that the residents of Dayton's Bluff control, guide, and make effective use of every day. Like the LWV report hints, we are not part of the problem...we are part of the solution.

Be sure to vote in the annual elections, open to all residents over 18, for the Council's Board of Directors on October 15, 2007. Call Karin at 651-772-2075 or email Karin at [Karin@daytonsbuff.org](mailto:Karin@daytonsbuff.org) for more information. The LWV report is available online at [www.lwvsp.org/publications/district\\_councils.pdf](http://www.lwvsp.org/publications/district_councils.pdf).



From the collection of Steve Trimble

A postcard from the early 1900s showing the Willow Brook Fish Hatchery. The sign reads, "Visitors are forbidden to throw or put anything into the WATER or PONDS, disturb or frighten the FISH with sticks, canes or in any manner."

"Below the mounds, reached by a rugged pathway down the side of the bluff, through rough gulches and vine-covered ravines, lies the Willow Brook State Fish Hatchery. In the ponds at the bottom of the ravine dwell thousands of trout and other game fish of all sizes and varieties, while in the buildings and hatching rooms may be seen spawn and fry in all stages of development.

"Millions upon millions of young fish are sent from this hatchery to restock the famous trout streams of the northern part of the state, for Minnesota believes in keeping up the fish supply in her streams and rivers and lakes. In one of the buildings there is exhibited a large and interesting collection of Minnesota game birds, one of the most complete collections of its kind in the country.

"There is no more beautiful spot around Saint Paul on a summer's day than this pretty little valley, far from the sounds of the great city—the wooded hills carpeted with emerald grass dotted all over with hundreds of varieties of wild flowers, the many-colored trout jumping in the little ponds, and the great river sliding lazily in the sunlight."

-From a tourism pamphlet produced by the St. Paul Association of Commerce

## Dayton's Bluff School Programs Celebrate Parent Involvement



**Sharing your excitement about a letter with your mom helps you want to learn to read and write, too.**

By Mary Ann Cogelow

I once heard the story of a Hmong mother whose four children were highly successful in school. All of them graduated from high school with honors and went on to get degrees in higher education. The mother did not speak, read or write English. When she was asked through an interpreter what she had done to help her children be so successful in school, she said that she always sat at the kitchen table with her children while they did their homework.

I wish I had asked more questions when I first heard this story. I suspect this mom was doing many things all day, everyday that supported her children's ability to be academically successful. Since she didn't have command of English, her involvement with the homework must have been limited. But I think her presence at the table during homework sessions sent her children at least three crucial messages: 1) you matter to me; 2) education is important; 3) I want to help you do well in school.

Every mom and dad wants his or her children to be successful in school and in life. Every mom and dad has the ability to help his or her children succeed. According to Carolyn Anderson writing in the Summer 2007 edition of *Pacesetter*, the news magazine of The Pacer Center, the "most accurate predictor of a student's school achievement is how much the family encourages learning." Unfortunately, many parents don't know that they have the power to do a good job of supporting children's learning.

Interestingly, the most crucial message parents need to send their children to support school success is not about 1, 2, 3 or A, B, C. It's about love. All children need to believe that their parents love them and will always love them just because they are, not because of what they do or don't do.

All Dayton's Bluff Elementary School Programs want parents to understand the powerful role they play in helping their children succeed. The Early Childhood Family Education Program located in Dayton's Bluff Elementary has been describing parents as "the first and most important teachers" for more than thirty years.

Parents with children ages birth to school entrance have an opportunity to come to school once each week to play and learn together with their kids and to continue adult discussion with other moms and dads. They explore many ways to support their children's development physically, socially, emotionally, and intellectually.

Project Early Kindergarten is beginning this school year with the first monthly take home package titled "School and Home – Partners in Learning." The September

package includes *The Kissing Hand*, by Audrey Penn. This story describes how wise Mother Raccoon helps her kindergarten discover a way to feel connected to her when he misses her while he is at school. (Wise Father Raccoons can use the same technique.)

The suggested follow-up activities for parents and children to do at home extend the child's growing abilities to listen, to understand, and to expand on ideas in a book while they support the child emotionally. A brief note to the parent explains what the child is learning and what research says about it. The first "Welcome to School" handout ends, "When families help their child feel good about going to school, they are helping their child succeed in school."

Dayton's Bluff Achievement Plus Elementary School offers many opportunities for parents to become involved in their children's school lives. Some of these are the Open House on September 20, 2007, "Student of the Month" assemblies, "Cook and Book" nights, parent-teacher conferences, "Family Involvement" events, informal conversations with Dayton's Bluff teachers and staff, participation on the Dayton's Bluff site council, and many chances to volunteer in the school.

All of the programs housed in Dayton's Bluff Elementary offer parents many opportunities to send the messages "you matter to me" (I love you), "education is important," and "I want to help you do well in school" to their children.

Look here for more specific suggestions about supporting children as learners next month.

## Crime, Community Building In the Mounds Park Area

By Steve Trimble

The Mounds Park neighborhood is usually considered a pretty serene place to live. However, during the month of August it was the scene of a rash of burglaries. More than a dozen homes were broken into and what is assumed to be a small group of thieves stole cash, cell phones and other electronic equipment.

Thanks to an active e-mail network, people began to spread the news and urged people to keep a look out for suspicious activity. The crimes had a pattern. In most cases they cut through window screens to enter but there were also some unlocked doors.

What disturbed residents the most was the fact that many of the burglaries occurred when people were at home, often upstairs while their things were being taken in a quick in-and-out manner. In one case they did their looting in a kitchen while someone was sleeping on a couch in the living room

A meeting was called at a Maria Avenue house and overflowed when almost a hundred people showed up to voice their concerns and to listen to police report and make safety suggestions.

There was finally a break in the case and one young man was arrested while trying to pawn some purloined property. He admitted he had stolen from seven houses. Some of the stolen goods were recovered in his mother's Mounds Park residence.

It looked like he was going to plead guilty and receive a year in jail, but recently decided to plead not guilty in spite

*"Crime" continued on page 8*

## Walk-a-thon Oct. 6 for Snow-Free Winter Walking

By Garry Fay, Walk the Bluff Coordinator

A Walk-a-thon for Snow-Free Winter walking will be held on Saturday, October 6th from 10 a.m. until noon. The Walk-a-thon will start at the Indian Mounds Park Pavilion located at the Mounds Blvd. and Earl St.

### Why a Walk-a-thon?

Winter walking the bluff is hampered by snow. Many people don't shovel to make for comfortable winter walking. Our sidewalks and walkways are our local infrastructure and we are responsible for them. My g'pa was a small town mayor and his solution to snow accumulations was, "July."

There are many strategies to snow removal but it all begins with people taking responsibility for their own property and then reaching out to the community. Many people need us to do this vital work. From school kids going to their bus stop to elders who have chosen to give up driving, from moms with babies in strollers to those who use canes or walkers to get about, the list is as long as our streets.

The streets speak to us. Listen and you will hear you community calling you into action. Become a local hero. We are seeking the combined efforts of many people to maintain our local walking infrastructure. Please join us and make for Snow-Free Winter Walking in your neighborhood.

One strategy is we can build community as we create snow-free winter walking for our neighborhood. Here's how: just as folks join together to get their alley plowed we can make snow-free winter walking possible by getting our sidewalks cleared of snow accumulations. It's up to you and your neighbors to get this done.

Our Walk-a-thon is focusing on several routes in Dayton's Bluff. What routes need to be done in your neighborhood? Naturally, you do your own sidewalks and help out those you know just as you would give their car a jump. What are the next steps?

The Dayton's Bluff Community Council is putting up \$500 in seed money for the project with another \$500 to match donations. The seed money comes from the Walk the Bluff program which is funded by Blue Cross Blue Shield. The money will be used for the actual snow removal when we can't get volunteer work and donated materials.

We are organizing to get groups who will offer snow removal labor, materials and equipment. We propose a sliding fee for the elderly and disabled. We ask that the able bodied and underemployed work to clean their own sidewalks or suffer an abatement from the city which can run into big money fast - Community building powered by elbow grease, a carrot and a stick.

For details see our website <http://www.daytonsbuff.org/Programs/WalkTheBluff/WalkTheBluff.html>, call Garry at 651/772-2075 or email [Garry@Daytonsbuff.org](mailto:Garry@Daytonsbuff.org).



**Walk the Bluff.**

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- Happiness
- A safer neighborhood

**Get involved in a Neighborhood Watch. Join your family, friends and neighbors walking your neighborhood regularly. Help make your neighborhood safer. We have brochures and lists of places to walk.**

**For more information call Garry at 651-772-2075 or e-mail [Garry@Daytonsbuff.org](mailto:Garry@Daytonsbuff.org) or visit [www.Daytonsbuff.org](http://www.Daytonsbuff.org)**



**Walk Dayton's Bluff**



**Walk the Bluff.**

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## Don't Forget to Vote on Oct. 15th for Your Community Council Representative

On Monday, October 15, 2007 polls are open from 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m. at 798 East 7th Street at the corner of 7th and Margaret. Come and vote for your representatives. A list of candidates will be available at the Community Council office.

Any Dayton's Bluff resident age 18 or over can vote. Voters can cast ballots for their Sub-district Representatives and for an At-Large seat. Write-in candidates are also permitted.

The Board of Directors totals 18 members of which 16 represent four sub-districts and two are At-Large positions. Sub-district representatives must be residents of that particular sub-district while the At-Large Director can be either a resident of Dayton's Bluff, a business owner, or an operator of a Dayton's Bluff business or organization.

All of the current Board openings are two (2) year terms.

Are you unavailable on October 15th? Absentee ballots maybe requested. All requests for absentee ballots must be made at least ten (10) days prior to the election, in writing and signed by the voter. All absentee ballots will be mailed by the Council at least seven (7) days before the election to the residence of the voter requesting the absentee ballot. Absentee ballots must be received in the Community Council office by October 15, 2007.

## Come to Vote and Stay for Our Potluck and Annual Meeting

The Dayton's Bluff Community Council Election/Annual Meeting and Pot Luck will be held on Monday, October 15, 2007. All three will be held at 798 East 7th Street. Voting for your Community Council representatives starts at 9:00 a.m. and ends at 7:00 p.m. Be sure to come for the Pot Luck Supper, which starts at 6:00 p.m., bring a dish to share, and stay for the Annual Meeting and the results of the election. It's a great way to find out what the Dayton's Bluff Community Council is all about and have supper with some neighbors at the same time.

Some of the activities the Dayton's Bluff Community Council has been involved in this past year include, Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Clean Up, Block Club Clean Ups, Block Clubs, National Night Out, Walk the Bluff, Greening Dayton's Bluff and its plant swap, Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Home Tour, Arts and Culture Committee, Greenspace Committee, litter and trash pick up on East 7th Street, in the parks, and on some residential streets, a number of Land Use issues, and so on.

If you have any questions about the Community Council, the election, the potluck, and/or the Annual Meeting email Karin@DaytonsBluff.org or call Karin at 651-772-2075.

## Your District Council President Has a Request... of You

By Walter Waranka, 2007 President Dayton's Bluff District Council

Every time we turn around it seems something new is causing us stress and worry; from the tragedy of the I-35W bridge collapse to floods in southeastern Minnesota. In comparison our neighborhood problems are not nearly as great as those things.

Personal safety cannot be taken for granted; in fact, we may wonder if we can feel safe in our own neighborhood. One of the biggest crimes, I feel, is when we become victims of those wrongs that are going on around us. If we let it, they can start to interfere with how we think and how we react to other things around us. I must say, for myself, it is a pretty easy mind-set to get into and it takes work to move forward. Instead of sitting around and wondering why and how, we should try our best to make a difference in our and others' lives.

One way to make a difference is to give back to the community. I would like to suggest one important way and ask you, as a resident of Dayton's Bluff, to consider becoming active within your District Council. We can use your help in many ways. One possibility for you would be to fill a board seat that might open up during the year, or to join one of our action committees to make things better in Dayton's Bluff.

The Council is involved in many different areas so you can easily find something that matches your interests and concerns. For example, you could contribute by:

- Keeping our neighborhood green
- Developing cultural events and opportunities
- Dealing with the concerns about vacant and abandoned homes
- Working on business community concerns and the issues related to business operations and our community.
- By working to keep our neighborhoods safe and attractive places to live.

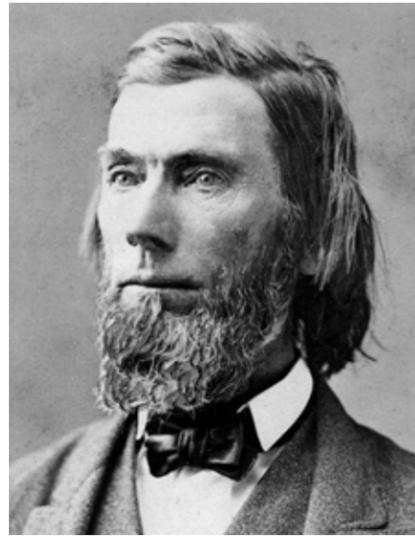
There are also other opportunities to help your neighborhood. We are even looking at possible new directions the Board can take to "Build up the Bluff."

I would like to personally invite all of you to take some time to consider these opportunities and explore how you can help out your community. If there is anything mentioned above that caught your interest, or if you have other suggestions, please call the Council office at 651-772-2075. We are more than willing to help you to participate in any way and at any level of involvement you would like.

In closing, we have two choices to make when looking at the world. We can look at all the bad that is going on and let it negatively influence our lives, or we can work to improve our neighborhoods wherever we can.

Come out and become a part of your Dayton's Bluff District Council. Your community needs you! And also come join us on October 15th for our potluck and annual meeting.

## It's Halloween on Dayton's Bluff



J.W. Yandes

By Nick Duncan

It's All Hallows Eve on Dayton's Bluff, and a strange, mysterious old man lays on his deathbed. Distraught over the recent death of his beloved wife, J.W. Yandes has taken his own life. A few days later J.W.'s son will take his own life at his father's grave. Both souls are doomed to haunt our neighborhood for all eternity.

This is a true story. At least the part about the deaths of J.W. Yandes and his son. It happened in 1884. And though the newspapers of the time reported J.W.'s death being caused by 'paralysis,' it was long believed that it was suicide. Yandes had a big home and seven acre orchard and dairy farm a little east of where present day Mounds Boulevard intersects I-94.

Indeed, a neighborhood such as Dayton's Bluff with such a long and rich history is full of macabre and ghostly stories like this. Talk to any long time resident of the Bluff and you'll hear about the ghosts that haunt homes, parks, theatres and businesses all over the neighborhood.

Amy Hanford, who has lived on the Bluff for more than twenty years had her first run in with Dayton's Bluff's undead the first day she moved into her 1877 built Victorian home. Amy and her husband, an experienced carpenter, had plenty of work to do on their new fixer-upper.

"It felt like the house was fighting us," remembers Hanford, "everything we did went wrong." Finally, Hanford did some research and held a salt ceremony. She talked to the house and told it she meant it no harm. The problems with the house ceased, at least for the time being.

Later, the ghosts made a reappearance in Hanford's house. Sometimes there were footsteps coming up the back stairway late at night, or mysterious shadows on the ceiling. From the bedroom, voices could be heard in the middle of the night, like the television was on. When Hanford went to check downstairs everything was silent. In certain rooms there was a strong smell of perfume for no apparent reason.

"One family owned this house from the time it was built until we bought it," said Hanford. "The last family member to live in the house was an old woman who died here."

Amy held another ceremony. This time it was a sage ceremony. Again, the ghosts vanished. But just last month new visitors arrived.

"I woke up in the middle of the night," recalled a wary Hanford, "someone was yelling my name but there was no one there."

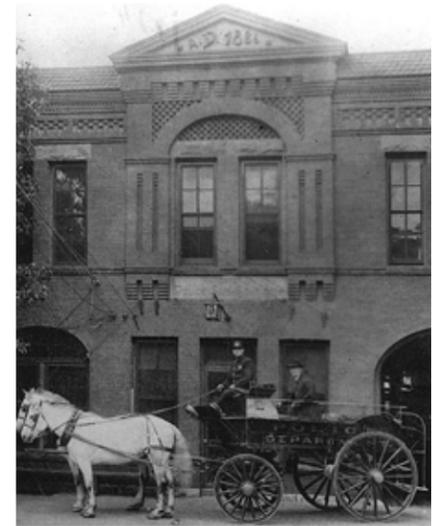
If you're looking for a paranormal happening on a dark and spooky Halloween night, or better yet on a sunny fall day with the trees in full color, here are some famous/infamous neighborhood sites where ghosts just may reside.

**Site of the Theodore Hamm's mansion overlooking Swede Hollow.** Creepy old gothic mansion high above the shanty houses where the poor immigrants of Swede Hollow lived and died. In the wild flower garden of Swede Hollow Park there remains rubble from the Hamm's house, which burned down in the 1950's. Below in Swede Hollow itself there is an eerie stillness and a strong sense of isolation from the nearby city.

**The original burial place of Lyman Dayton, 334 Mounds Boulevard (currently 652 5th street).** Lyman Dayton, the namesake of our neighborhood, built a magnificent house on the Bluff and when he died in 1865, he was buried in the side yard where he remained until 1869 when he was dug up and re-buried in Oakland cemetery. The house built over his original gravesite has long been rumored to be haunted.

**Mounds Theatre.** This newspaper has long chronicled the strange happenings in the Mounds Theatre (see our back issues online at [www.daytonsbluff.org](http://www.daytonsbluff.org)). The ghost of the little blond haired girl, the man in the projection booth, a veritable potpourri of ghosts and spirits.

**Old Margaret Street Police Station.** Back in the olden days the St. Paul Police



were infamous for their corruption and heavy-handed tactics. The Margaret Street station was scene to more than one less than gentle interrogation.

**Mounds Park Sanitarium.** The Sanitarium once stood on the site that is now a long-term care facility near Mounds Park (200 Earl Street). The Sanitarium was devoted to the 'care' of the chronically or mentally ill and chemically/alcohol dependant people back in an era when 'care' meant something a little more harsh than it does today. Does anyone remember Nurse Ratchet?

**Native American Burial Mounds, Mounds Park.** For hundreds of years this was a sacred site to Native Americans



from throughout the region. When whites arrived the site became a park and the mounds that weren't out and out destroyed (at one time there were 36 mounds now there are only 6), were pilfered of any valuables, including human remains. Nothing stirs up ghosts like the desecration of sacred land. Just take a walk through the park on a dark night; you'll see what I mean.

The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* would love to hear your Dayton's Bluff ghost stories. Please contact Nick Duncan at 651-774-3459 or via e-mail at [nick.duncan@mnhns.org](mailto:nick.duncan@mnhns.org).

*Photo credits: J.W. Yandes and Margaret Police Station courtesy of Minnesota Historical Society Collections. Mounds Park Indian mounds photo by Nick Duncan.*

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## Christmas is Getting Closer at the Mounds

A Christmas Story returns to the Mounds Theatre for the fourth year, live on stage this December for nine performances

Humorist Jean Shepherd's memoir of growing up in the Midwest in the 1940s follows 9-year-old Ralphie Parker in his quest to get a genuine Red Ryder BB gun under the tree for Christmas. Ralphie pleads his case before his mother, his teacher and even Santa Claus himself, at Goldblatt's Department Store, with the same and always consistent response: "You'll shoot your eye out." All the elements from the beloved motion picture are here, including the family's temperamental exploding furnace; Scut Farkas, the school bully; the boys' experiment with a wet tongue on a cold flagpole; the Little Orphan Annie decoder pin; Ralphie's father winning a lamp shaped like a woman's leg in a net stocking as a major award; Ralphie's fantasy scenarios and more.

Create or continue a holiday tradition at the Mounds Theatre. A Christmas Story is appropriate for all ages. Tickets to the play make a great gift for those "hard to buy for" individuals on your shopping list. Purchase your tickets now. Don't delay and be disappointed.

**Performances:**  
 Fridays, Dec. 7, 14 & 21 and Saturdays, Dec. 8, 15 & 22 at 7:30 p.m.  
 Sundays, Dec. 9, 16 & 23 at 2:00 p.m.

**Tickets:**  
 Ticket prices are \$15 Adults; \$10 Student/Senior (55+); and \$5 Children (12 and under). Advance purchase group discounts are available.

Visit [www.moundstheatre.org](http://www.moundstheatre.org) for an order form or call 651-772-2253 and leave your name and number. Someone will call you back to take your order.

The Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106 one half block west of Earl St.

"Crime" continued from page 6

of the confession. Police also believe that he had at least three accomplices and while there are some suspects, further arrests have yet to be made.

There was a second meeting to follow up on the suggestion of forming block clubs and taking other measures to protect homes. This event was held at Cerenity (the old Marian Center) and around thirty people attended.

A wide variety of topics were covered. Crime was obviously a prime concern. The beat officer gave hints on how to protect homes and what do if a person sees suspicious activities in the neighborhood. One of the key long-term suggestions was the formation of block clubs. That way people get to know their neighbors, share information and look out for each other.

While other parts of Dayton's Bluff have such organizations, until now there were none in the Mounds park area. They are now in the process of being formed. They will be self-defined and some may contain more than a single block. Ten block club coordinators have already volunteered and more are needed for the area south of I-94.

One of the specific items agreed upon at the meeting was the creation of a Neighborhood Walk Group, something modeled after such a program in the Newell Park area. Adults take turns walking around in the evening and at night making their pres-

ence known, getting to know folks and sometimes checking out trouble spots. This is one way to create a positive presence that deters crime and also builds a sense of community.

The need to develop a stronger sense of place and to promote community-building will be another important aim. Some suggestions were made—distributing an occasional newsletter, and having some seasonal activities, such as picnics and potlucks. Maybe there could be book clubs or sports groups or how about a talent show at the Mounds Theatre?

"Why did it take crime to get me to start walking around the neighborhood a lot?" asked one person. Someone else suggested that something good might come out of this unfortunate turn of events. Many shared the feelings of one woman who said "It's too bad it took a crime to get me to go to a meeting."

If there is something you see that looks suspicious or you think a crime is in progress call 911 so there is a chance to catch people while things are going on. If you have questions or just want to talk to one of the police officers assigned to Dayton's Bluff beat, there is a cell phone: 651-341-7637. If you live in the Mounds Park area (anywhere south of I-94) and want to get involved, please call Mary Petrie at 774-1502. For other parts of Dayton's Bluff call Karin DuPaul at the Community Council office at 772-2075.

### Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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### Dayton's Bluff Recycling Pick up

**Every Tuesday. Have your recycling on the curb by 7:00 a.m.**  
**If you need recycling bins call 651-772-2075.**

Remember how Congress messed up Daylight Saving Time in Spring? Well they did it in Fall, too. So don't set you clocks back on the last Sunday in October or Trick or Treating on Halloween will be all wrong. Wait until the first Sunday in November and be amazed at how much energy you save.