Celebrate community with your neighbors in Dayton’s Bluff on National Night Out, Tuesday, August 6. Neighbor- hood groups and block clubs are planning a variety of activ- ities for their NNO events. Some have a barbecue or a potato; others may have mag- ic show, live bands, kids’ games, etc. This is the thirtieth Annual National Night Out, which is celebrated nationwide.

Most NNO celebrations start around 6:00 or 6:30 pm. Bring a dish or dessert to share with your neighbors. Another way to celebrate is to get all of your neighbors to turn on outside lights from dusk to dawn. For more information, or if you would like to host a National Night Out event in your neighbor- hood, call Karin at 651-772-2075.

New this year: The National Night Out Before-and-During Photo Contest. The national organizers of NNO (www.natw.org) want to see how you transform your quiet block or site into a mar- velous NNO extravaganza. The top entry will win a $100 Gift Certificate to the NNO Super- Store. How it works: Take a photo of your block or event site before NNO 2013; then take a photo during your NNO 2013. Winners will be determined by the photos with the most “likes” on Facebook.

Take your “before” photo now. Please hold onto your “before” and “during” photos and submit them together in an email to info@natw.org. Have your subject line read “Before and During Photo Contest.” Contest deadline is October 16. Thanks and good luck! If you have questions, call Karin at 651-772-2075.

For more NNO information, please turn to page 3.

Second annual event Saturday, August 17

The Dayton’s Bluff Community Council presents the Make it Happen Night Out on East 7th Street. This business and community fair is a fun way to involve residents in the growth of a vibrant business district in our neighborhood, bringing the com- munity together for a memorable cele- bration.

Gather your fam- ily and friends and make your way to East 7th Street, where you will find business representat- ives out on the side- walk to meet, greet and inform you of the richness of products and services available in the neighborhood. There will be deals offered for the evening, including lots of free stuff and extra fun for the kids. This is definitely an all-age event!

Our walkable Make It Happen Dis- trict along East 7th Street stretches from Maria Avenue to Mendota Street. Look for the volunteers in their bright green Make it Happen t-shirts to guide you to the clearly-marked “starting points” on each block to get your Make it Happen boards. You can go any direction along the route, but re- member: the more businesses you vis- it, the more giveaway items, special deals and chances to win prizes.

Watch for designated parking areas and stay safe by crossing the streets at the crosswalks. Don’t miss the jump castle for the kids, free popcorn, and cultural dancers. Bring your family and friends and plan to eat out on 7th Street! Visit the food court and local restaurants for dinner.

The drawing for prizes takes place at approximately 7:45 pm at the band stage on the hospital limes site. Then, sit back, relax and enjoy live local music from 8:00-10:00 pm. Rock out with Probable Cause, Youth in Transition, G. Class, Tom Robinson and other great music groups from the East Side.

Gain a whole new appreciation for businesses in our district and find out how to buy local, including many everyday services and great food. Meet your neighbors and those who work in our district.

Don’t miss it; mark your calendars: Saturday, August 17, 4:00-8:00 pm.

Call Tabitha at 651-332-9069 for in- formation, if you want your business to be represented or if you are willing to volunteer at this community event. See you all there!

Dayton’s Bluff Community Council 798 East 7th Street St. Paul, MN 55106 NONPROFIT ORG. U.S. POSTAGE PAID TWIN CITIES MN PERMIT NO. 3996

ECRWSS Postal Customer

Hot day at the old ballgame

Girls and boys from one of Parkway Little League’s machine-pitch teams cheer during a tournament July 21. For nearly six decades, the Dayton’s Bluff organization has drawn

Tension high between Metro State, community at July 9 meeting

Report by Sage Holten, Dayton’s Bluff Community Council:
On Tuesday, July 9, approximately 40 area residents took Metropolitan State Uni- versity up on its invitation to a Community Forum for an update and discussion re- garding MSU’s future parking ramp, student center, and science education building. Various university vice-presidents and representatives of design and construction were present to answer questions, with the focus on the parking ramp. Construction on the student center and ramp are slated to begin mid-September, on condition that the city council grants two variance requests.

The location of underground sewage and water pipes were central to MSU’s re- sponse to several attendees’ very strong and rebuffed suggestions that MSU build the facility closer to New Main, on Maria Avenue, which would have let the MSU com- munity enjoy the wall of the multi-level parking ramp. If the ramp would be built with one or two tiers underground, indicated several residents, MSU would demon- straw their respect for residents who purposely purchased homes with a view of the Capitol City.

Jesse Bethke, Vice-President of University Planning and Advancement, said, “Economics said this building has to be above ground.” To build underground, ac- cording to one MSU representative, would be costly and “heroic” of Metropolitan State; therefore, no study was done about underground construction. “This”, one res- ident was heard to say, “flies in the face of the wind turbine debacle when [the then-
Friends of Swede Hollow

The next monthly meeting is on Wednesday, August 14, at 6:30 pm. Email swedehollow@gmail.com or call 651-776-0550 for more information and the meeting's location.

Donate your junk car
Budget Towing of Minnesota will remove your junker at no charge. The vehicle owner receives a tax deduction; the Dayton's Bluff Community Council gets a donation. Call 651-772-2075 or email karin@dayton bluff.org.

Meet the police
The Eastern District Police hosts monthly community meetings at 722 Payne Avenue, at the corner of Minnehaha Avenue. The next meetings are Wednesday, August 21, at 6:30 pm, and Friday, August 16, at 9:30 am. The meetings are intended to listen to and address concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

Community meeting
The next Dayton’s Bluff Community Meeting is Thursday, August 1. The meeting is from 6:30 pm-8:00 pm at 798 East 7th Street at the corner of 7th and Margaret Streets. Agenda items include code enforcement issues and discussion. What can we do to make Dayton's Bluff the best it can be? We need your ideas to make your neighborhood a better place to live.

Issues that come up at this monthly meeting may include problem addresses, problem behavior, (both criminal and nuisance behavior) and code enforcement issues. There will be someone from the Department of Safety and Inspections Code Enforcement and the police department at every meeting.

All Dayton’s Bluff residents and business people are welcome. Email karin@daytonsb bluff.org or call 651-772-2075 with addresses of problems before the meeting, so we can get them to the police and code enforcement, and they can bring information about the problems to the meeting. For more information, email karin@daytonsb bluff.org or call Karin at 651-772-2075.

Small business classes
Interested in participating in the Dayton’s Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Program? The next class will begin in September 2013. The program helps start-up and young businesses; all East Side entrepreneurs are welcome. Classroom training lasts eight weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, how to create a successful business, and how to prepare a business plan. In addition, each student will have eight hours of one-on-one time with the instructor to work on individual business concepts. Those who successfully complete the course and locate their businesses in target neighborhoods are eligible for ongoing business support services. Class size is limited. For an application for the fall session, contact karin@daytonsb bluff.org or 651-772-2075.

The Forum needs YOU for a Friend
The District Forum newspaper is a nonprofit operation that mails out a free valuable community resource to every address in Dayton’s Bluff. Please contribute to the paper at givem.nu.zoo.com using “Hopewell Communications.”

Become a Friend of the Forum today by donating any amount online, or use the form on page 8 of this paper. Need more information? Email editor@daytonsb bluff.org.

For an idea of how much an issue of the Dayton Bluff District Forum costs, each issue requires many volunteer hours for editing and layout. Our ad base has fallen off over the years. Please give your business a donation and ask your business owners (18 years and older) to file for these positions, at the District Council office 798 East 7th Street, between August 19 and September 16 at 7:00 pm.

Dayton’s Bluff has is a diverse community that welcomes all newcomers and strongly encourages everyone to contact the office (651-772-2075), or the Council web site www.daytons bluff.org, to learn more about how they can make a difference in Dayton’s Bluff.

Stop by and check us out!

Help make a difference in Dayton’s Bluff – join the Community Council Board
The Dayton’s Bluff Community Council will hold its annual elections for board members October 21, 2013, half (nine) of the 18 the seats are up for election/reelection. The Board is organized into four subdistricts, each with four representatives, and two at-large seats. We are actively seeking candidates for at-large positions.

Interested residents and business owners (18 years and older) should file for these positions, at the District Council office 798 East 7th Street, between August 19 and September 16 at 7:00 pm. Businesses in Dayton’s Bluff.

The Dayton’s Bluff Rec Center is located at 800 Conway Street.

Upcoming opportunities at Dayton’s Bluff Recreation Center

- Family Movie Mondays, 5:30-7:30 pm.
- Girls group: Fridays, 2:00-3:00 pm, ages 12-16.
- Parent & Tot Time: ongoing, Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:00 am - 12:00 noon.
- Cheer America: Mondays, 6:00-7:00 pm.
- Self-defense: Mondays, 6:00-8:00 pm.
- Judo: Mondays, 6:00-7:30 pm.
- Free Zumbal Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30 pm in the dance room.
- Seniors “500” card playing, every Friday, 12:00 noon - 4:00 pm.
- Summer Blast program has started for 1st-6th graders.
- African drumming: FREE, every other Friday, August 9 & 23, 1:00-3:00 pm. ALL AGES; open to the public.
- High school open volleyball: Wednesdays, 6:35-8:00 pm.
- FREE MEALS for kids: In Dayton’s Bluff Elementary School cafeteria (adult meal for $3.75): Breakfast: 8:30-9:30 am Lunch: 11:30 am-1:00 pm
- In the Rec Center (food unavailable to adults): Snack: 3:00-4:00 pm Supper: 6:00-7:00 pm

The Dayton’s Bluff Rec Center is located at 800 Conway Street.

Stop by and check us out!
Dayton’s Bluff resident Barbara Sommerville publishes WWII memoir

Sommerville holds her new book, I Came Through Swell.

From the author: I Came Through Swell is a WWII memoir about my dad, a St. Paul resident who became a B-29 pilot. Using journals, letters, and research, I’ve put together his service record for an entertaining and informative read. The 158-page paperback is now available on Amazon for $13.

(510 Kindle). Email me at sommervilleq.g.com. Chauncey “Speed” Nelson always knew he wanted to be a pilot. Growing up on a farm, he spent his days dreaming of flying. When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor in 1941, Speed found his purpose as a bomber pilot for the U.S. Air Corps. Join Speed from his first training days to dozens of terrifying and thrilling missions flown out of Italy. Experience the terror of bailing out of a burning plane, only to wind up in a POW camp. Though Speed survived the war, he did not like to speak of it. 15 years after his death, his daughter Barbara Sommerville pieced together the whole story, sending her on a fascinating journey to discover a young man she never knew – and the powerful way her father’s intelligence and optimism influenced his life during the war. Barbara learns valuable lessons about her own history, ultimately showing that every family has stories worth telling.

Join Speed from his first training days to dozens of terrifying and thrilling missions flown out of Italy. Experience the terror of bailing out of a burning plane, only to wind up in a POW camp. Though Speed survived the war, he did not like to speak of it. 15 years after his death, his daughter Barbara Sommerville pieced together the whole story, sending her on a fascinating journey to discover a young man she never knew – and the powerful way her father’s intelligence and optimism influenced his life during the war. Barbara learns valuable lessons about her own history, ultimately showing that every family has stories worth telling.
Dayton's Bluff & District 1 Cleanup & FREE Stuff Area
Saturday, September 14, 2013
9:00 am - 12:00 noon in the Hamm Brewery parking lot at 10927 East Mnisheha Street (on the south side of Mnisheha Street)
This cleanup is for Dayton's Bluff & District 1 residents only.

COSTS:
• Entrance: $7 per car, $10 per small truck or mini van, $25 per pickup truck and trailers.
  No dump trucks.
• Extra Fees: $10 per mattress, box spring, couch or love seat, $10 per child car seat.
  $3 per car tire; $5 per truck tire.
• Electronics: $10 to $25 depending on the item.
  You may also bring: fluorescent bulbs, scrap metal, bicycles, demolition debris, clean wood, connteretrocks.

WHAT TO BRING:
Proof of Dayton's Bluff or District 1 residency in the form of a driver's license or utility bill is required to gain entry. Be prepared to upload your own materials. Materials will be sorted at the site into different dumpsters to maximize recycling.

In order to simplify unloading, vehicles should be loaded in the following manner:
• On the bottom of the load: concrete, bricks, rocks, construction debris, general refuse.
• In the middle of the load: bikes and scrap metal, mattresses/box springs, tires, clean dry carpet
• On the top of the load: reusable household items, electronics, fluorescent bulbs, child car seats.

Remember: DO NOT bring appliances to the cleanup. See below for appliance pickup information.

WHAT NOT TO BRING:
Not all materials are accepted at the cleanup. For more information about how to recycle or dispose of these or other items, call 651-222-SORT (7678). TTY for the hearing impaired: 651-772-4832.

No railroad ties or chemically-treated wood.

No appliances. Appliances can be picked up at your curb.
Call JR's Appliance at 651-454-9215 before Thursday, September 12, to arrange to have your appliances picked up at your curb on Monday, September 16. Cost $25 for the first appliance, $10 for each additional appliance (there is a $10 surcharge for each air conditioner and water softener). JR's Appliance accepts air conditioners, dehumidifiers, dishwashers, dryers, furnaces, garbage disposals, heat pumps, microwaves, refrigerators, stoves, trash compactors, washers, water softeners and water heaters.

No Car Batteries: Bring car batteries to a store that sells them. All stores and service stations that sell car batteries are required by law to accept up to five batteries per person for free.

No Paint, Pesticides, Motor Oil or other Hazardous Wastes: Free disposal at Ramsey County household hazardous waste drop-off site: Bay West, 5 Empire Drive, St. Paul, open Tuesday through Thursday, 6:00 am - 9:00 pm; Friday 6:00 am - 4:00 pm (April-October) and Saturday 9:00 am - 4:00 pm (November-March).

No Leaves, Grass or Brush: Free disposal at Ramsey County compost site: Frank Street and Sims Avenue, open Tuesday through Thursday, 6:00 am - 9:00 pm; Friday 6:00 am - 4:00 pm; Saturday 9:00 am - 6:00 pm and Sunday 11:00 am - 5:00 pm.

No Curbside Recycling Materials: Dayton's Bluff District 4 curbside recycling is picked up every Tuesday. Have your Recycling at the curb by 7:00 am.

Good free stuff at the cleanup
Even if you do not have junk or trash to get rid of, come and check out the Free Stuff. The cleanup will once again feature a Reuse Area so that used items that still have some life left in them can be shared with new owners. Good stuff like dishes, furniture, building materials, cabinets, lawnmowers, bikes, toys and other items in good condition will be set aside in the Reuse Area for anyone to take home. All materials in the Reuse Area are free and there is no charge to enter this area. Items must be hauled away from the Free Stuff area by noon on cleanup day or it all goes in the dumpster. So bring your car, truck or trailer.

Volunteers are needed
Help neighbors clean up the neighborhood. All skill levels are needed. Work four hours and get free entry for one load of material. A free lunch will be provided. Call 651-772-2075 if you would like to help.

Sponsors:
The Cleanup is sponsored by the Dayton's Bluff Community Council, City of St. Paul and the Eureka Recycling.

Rules:
The above guidelines will be strictly adhered to. The Dayton's Bluff Community Council reserves the right to turn away any person or vehicle, to refuse any item or to close the site early if dumpsters are filled or costs exceed budget. There will be limited senior pick-up service. For more information or to register, call the Dayton's Bluff Community Council at 651-772-2075.

Page 4 Dayton’s Bluff District Forum August 2013

Neighborhood groups to guide East Side transit

from a Dayton's Bluff Community Council press release

A collaborative of neighborhood groups has launched a community-focused project to guide transit development on St. Paul's East Side.
The project, funded by the Ramsey County Regional Railroad Authority, seeks to build stronger relationships between government agencies and the people, businesses and neighborhoodsthey serve. The idea is to get residents and businesses involved in meaningful ways earlier in the process.

With a budget of $150,000, the collaborative will examine transit patterns and customer needs and the challenges and opportunities for expanded transit service on the East Side.
The collaborative also hopes to cultivate a more informed constituency with resident leaders who can make more effective influence transit decisions making on their own behalf.

Partners include: Deanna Foster, District 4 (Lead Agency); Chuck Repke, District 2; Betsy Leach, District 1; Leslie McMurray, District 5; Mikael Carlson, East Side Prosperity Campaign; Tim Herman, East Side Area Business Association.
The project is being managed by St. Paul firm CultureBrokers LLC.

August at the Mounds Theatre
by Rachael Buh, Executive Director, Historic Mounds Theatre

“Night of the Living Dead” – live on stage
From the creative team that brought you the spine-chilling “War of the Worlds – A Live Theatre Radio Drama,” and based on the legendary film by George Romero and John Russo, comes “Night of the Living Dead.”

45 years ago, on October 1, 1968, an independent horror film astounded and scared audiences everywhere as droves of the undead filled the silver screen. And now it’s lurching its way to YOU.

“Night of the Living Dead” is sponsored by Crypticon Minneapolis – The Night of the Living Dead.
Performance dates: July 26, 27, and August 2 & 3 at 7:30 pm and a special matinee at 2:30 pm.
Or will you survive this Night of the Living Dead? The only way to find out is to be a part of the action. Trapped along with the rest of the survivors hiding from the now it’s lurching its way to YOU.

From the creative team that brought you the spine-chilling “War of the Worlds – A Live Theatre Radio Drama,” and based on the legendary film by George Romero and John Russo, comes “Night of the Living Dead.”

45 years ago, on October 1, 1968, an independent horror film astounded and scared audiences everywhere as droves of the undead filled the silver screen. And now it’s lurching its way to YOU.

The Historic Mounds Theatre is proud to present an original treatment of the beloved horror classic, bringing you “Night of the Living Dead – Live & Undead.”
You may have seen it on screen. You may even have seen it on stage. Now come live it! Experience the tension and horror like never before when it’s your turn to be part of the action. Trapped along with the rest of the survivors hiding from the living dead menace outside – will you fall prey to becoming one of the zombie flesh eaters?

The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106; www.moundstheatre.org; 651-772-2253.
St. John’s Catholic Church closes

by Greg Cosimini
Forum staff

The northeast corner of 5th and Forest Streets in Dayton’s Bluff in St. Paul will never be the same. For 127 years, starting in 1886, it was occupied by St. John’s Catholic Church, but on July 1 that changed. That was the day St. John’s ceased to exist, as it merged with St. Pascal’s two miles east.

The official reasons given by the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis for its closing were financial instability and a shortage of priests. However, St. John’s was debt-free when it met its demise, while St. Pascal’s owes millions of dollars on the church it built a decade ago. St. John’s had a pastor willing to continue his work but he was forced to retire on July 1 and move out of the parish house a few days later.

The beginning of the end started in 2000 when St. John’s pastor Father Joseph Fink was transferred to another parish and no new pastor was assigned to St. John’s. Eventually a retired priest, Father George Welzbach, offered to take over the reins. It was a homecoming for him because his first appointment as a newly ordained priest in 1945 was at St. John’s. Later he became the one and only pastor of St. Ambrose in St. Paul, another East Side parish that was closed. Poor health eventually forced Father Pingatore to resign and St. John’s was once again without a pastor.

Several temporary parochial administrators ran St. John’s until another priest volunteered to lead the parish. 78-year-old Father George Welzbach took over in 2006 and stability was restored to the parish. Then on a Saturday morning in October 2010, parishioners picked up their newspapers and read that the Archdiocese’s Strategic Plan had determined St. John’s should be closed by July 2013. Appeals were made to the Archdiocese and to the Vatican in Rome, but they were denied. A variety of alternate proposals were suggested that could keep St. John’s open, but they too were rejected.

St. John’s closing came as a complete surprise and shock to its parishioners, most of who have decided for a variety of reasons not to become members of St. Pascal’s. As with any business that closes, the closing of St. John’s also impacts its neighborhood. Two full time jobs, three if the pastor is included, three part time jobs, and a number of contract worker jobs were lost. The money spent by the church, its employees and parishioners in this neighborhood is gone. A large parcel of real estate containing three buildings now stand empty, joining other abandoned properties in Dayton’s Bluff. The sale of St. John’s church, school, parish house and parking lot is actively being pursued, but no purchase is in the works yet. Any revenue derived from the property will go to pay off St. Pascal’s debt.

St. John’s may have closed, but it went out with style. A solemn final Sunday Mass was celebrated on June 30, with the church filled to overflowing with parishioners and friends, both past and present. That was followed by a giant pig roast in the church hall and parking lot to mark the end of a very long era in Dayton’s Bluff. A final weekend Mass was celebrated on July 3 with attendance similar to that of a typical weekend Mass. After a flurry of photographs and tearful good-byes, the church doors of St. John’s were closed for the final time and the locks were changed shortly thereafter.

St. John’s received plenty of media coverage in its final weeks with articles in the St. Paul Pioneer Press, the Minneapolis Star Tribune and the East Side Review, and television features on KSTP and KMSF. Homemade videos have already begun appearing on YouTube and a professionally made DVD and CD photo set of the June 30 activities was produced.

St. John’s may be gone, but it won’t be forgotten. For more information about the history of St. John’s, visit www.LostChurchesOfStPaul.com.

---

Dayton’s Bluff District Forum

798 East 7th Street, St. Paul, MN 55106
Phone: 651-772-2075  Fax: 651-774-3510  E-mail: editor@dayton bluff.org
Monthly circulation: 7,500

Also available online at www.dayton bluff.org. This is a publication of Hopewell Communications, Inc. and 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. No material contained in this paper may be reprinted without consent of the editor. Articles or photographs that are not attributed are the work of Forum staff. Articles and letters to the editor are welcome and may be emailed to editor@dayton bluff.org or faxed to 651-774-3510. The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum is delivered to every home and business in the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood. Outside this area, subscriptions cost $15 per year and may be arranged by calling 651-772-2075.

Board of Directors: Greg Cosimini, Karin DuPaul, Carla Riehle, Steve Trimble
Editor/Layout: Meg Gronau
Editorial Assistants: Mark Gallagher, Danny Evans

---

Join your neighbors and celebrate NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

“Help build a stronger, healthier neighborhood with the quality of life that everyone desires and deserves.”

Give drugs and crime a going-away party

Email Karin@DaytonsBluff.org or Call Karin 651-772-2075 to find out about a National Night Out event near you.

Paid for by the Volunteers for Johnson Committee, 2011 Howard St. S., St. Paul, MN 55119

State Representative

SHELDON JOHNSON

549 State Office Building
100 Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155
(651) 296-4201
rep.sheldon.johnson@house.mn
www.house.mn/67B
www.sheldonjohnson.com
Letter to the editor –

For years now, many of us who live on the East Side have wondered what might become of the abandoned, 36,000-square-foot “Lowertown Depot” at the foot of the Mounds Park overlook. My ideal is to see the structure’s unique history by creating a “signature food hub” – a place where we could aggregate, process and freeze local produce, thereby providing a new source of healthy, sustainably-produced food to thousands of people across the city.

The location is ideal: In this place where the Dakota were once nourished, the city sits. In the future, this area would be bordered by the bounty of the land, we could purchase unsoiled produce from the Farmers Market a few blocks away, and use that food to provide, healthy ingredients for food trucks serving crowds stepping off the light rail at nearby Union Station, or attending St. Paul Saints games in the new Lowertown ballpark.

Downtown workers would have a new outlet for their produce. Local schools, restaurants, farmers’ markets and more would have a new source of locally-grown, healthy foods. Entrepreneurs could get started in the nourished community’s commercial kitchen. Classes could be offered on cooking skills and preservation techniques. Jobs would be created: Some someone would have to clean, freeze and distribute all that food! and the City would receive additional tax revenue from sales taxes.

A signature food hub would position Minnesota’s capital city as a leader in the global effort to seek new economic models that support human and environmental health. Such a facility would help create a city that is environmentally sustainable and more prosperous, creative and equitable.

Tracy Sides, Dayton’s Bluff

MSU parking ramp meeting, continued from page 1

spoke of looking to have revitalized commercial corridor that would be “a vibrant commercial district” with a di- verse “mix of businesses.”

Opinion was part of that task force. The goal was to add new businesses to fill in the gaps in the retail on East 7th Street, not to add large apartments. And the way I see it, the two proposals are quite different. A group of local people have been trying to get a food co-op going on the East Side and asked the Missis- sippi Market to come here. As far as I know, there is no group that has been pushing to have a big, fat apartment building on 7th Street. Report: The bulk of the property is inside the Dayton’s Bluff Historic District, so some time was used to explain how His- toric Preservation Commission (HPC) guidelines might affect the look of the buildings. Both developers said they had been in contact with the HPC.

Few moments were allotted to ask questions of the developers. The questions were wide-ranging, covering topics such as some of the rules buildings would be to treat workers. One difference that popped up was that Dominic said they would be looking for City money, so the Mississippi Market people would not.

After that, the audience was broken into groups that met at separate tables to come up with ideas, suggestions and reactions to the proposals. Ideas were put onto large sheets of paper and one person at each table took notes and after a time each of the tables took notes and after a time each of the tables reported back.

Report and Opinion by Steve Trimble, Forum staff:

The Hospital Linen Site. That’s what the large, empty lot on south side of East 7th Street between Bates Avenue and Maple Street is being called – since there was once a commercial laundry there. You may have driven or walked by it and wondered what might be happening there.

This article will be a combination of what happened at the July 9 meeting, and my opinions of the event.

Opinion: I asked to have quotation marks put in my headline, because I don’t view what happened as a true com- munity discussion. It was a meeting at which the city introduced the two de- velopers they were already working with, and allowed some after-the-fact comments on an already-made decision. Happens all the time, but I don’t have to like it.

Report: Two developers were there—

Dominion, wanting to build a multi- story project for senior rental housing, and the Mississippi Market Co-op, that wants to have a spot for organic food sales in the neighborhood. Representat- ives from the city offered that it was car- rying out the recommendations of an earlier Near East Side Task Force. They spoke of looking to have revitalized commercial corridor that would be “a vibrant commercial district” with a di- verse “mix of businesses.”

Opinion was part of that task force. The goal was to add new businesses to fill in the gaps in the retail on East 7th Street, not to add large apartments. And the way I see it, the two proposals are quite different. A group of local people have been trying to get a food co-op going on the East Side and asked the Missis- sippi Market to come here. As far as I know, there is no group that has been pushing to have a big, fat apartment building on 7th Street. Report: The bulk of the property is inside the Dayton’s Bluff Historic District, so some time was used to explain how His- toric Preservation Commission (HPC) guidelines might affect the look of the buildings. Both developers said they had been in contact with the HPC.

Few moments were allotted to ask questions of the developers. The questions were wide-ranging, covering topics such as some of the rules buildings would be to treat workers. One difference that popped up was that Dominic said they would be looking for City money, so the Mississippi Market people would not.

After that, the audience was broken into groups that met at separate tables to come up with ideas, suggestions and reactions to the proposals. Ideas were put onto large sheets of paper and one person at each table took notes and after a time each of the tables took notes and after a time each of the tables report
More electronic history of Dayton's Bluff
by Steve Trimble
Forum historian

In case you missed the two earlier episodes of "Electronic History" here in the Forum, let me explain. Historic St. Paul and its development can be a chore for some of the city's history. People can carry the information on a phone – or download it and make a paper copy if they want – and get information as they walk around.

But you don't have to wait for the app to be available. Here is a preview for Forum readers. This is the third and final selection from a section of the our neighborhood history that was included under the name "Below the Bluff." Places that were, or still are located on the Mississippi River bank underneath this community are described in a few hundred words.

Is it Carver's Cave or Wakan Tipi?
After a civil war, France, which had laid claim to the area that included today's St. Paul, ceded the land to England in 1763. November 14, 1766 he came to "a river that I marked. In St. Paul's early days, Wakan Indians called Wakan-Tipi," which to visit. His explorations that included information about the area history and mention of the Palen Area Project. They joined with the DNR and the National Park Service to reclaim 27-acre area to start developing an important landmark that is part of the site's potential and in 1997 they began working together as the Lower Palen Area Project. They joined with the DNR and the National Park Service to reclaim 27-acre area to start developing a national landmark that is part of a national recreation area.

The city purchased the land, and restoration work was soon undertaken by volunteers who removed tons of debris that had been dumped over the years. Clean soil was brought in to replace marginal land, and invasive buckthorn was uprooted. The goal was to bring back a mix of native plants including oak woodlands, floodplain forest, prairie and oak savannas that echo the importance of trains turning. Two small ponds attract waterfowl and the uplands are home to turkey vultures, bald eagles and red tail hawks are now seen along the sandstone bluffs. Pedestrian trails and bicycle trails have been installed, a series of grass wetlands hold abundant water and a spring-fed stream runs through the property.

On May 21, 2005 the area was opened 27-acre area from 1977 until 2005. He was the author of a law that created a Mississippi National River and Recreation Area.

There are a few remnants of the older days, including railroad maintenance pads that echo the importance of trains to the area history and mention of the old brewery. The project recreated a number of ecosystems that had existed including oak woodlands, floodplain forests, prairies and oak savannas.

The Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary’s walking and biking paths take visitors through a vibrant habitat with colorful plants that explain and interpret various parts of the site. Volunteers have planted nearly 2,000 trees, and wetlands and the prairie sections are now filled with colorful flowers. While trains occasionally rumble by below the bluff, you are more likely now to see eagles, indigo buntings, northern flickers, red-tailed hawks and other birds in wild and soaring above the park.

View from my porch
Metro State labyrinth offers peace, reflection
by Sage Halten
Dayton's Bluff Community Council

On my walk to work several days ago, my neighbor, Karo, was picking up litter in front of his Maria Avenue residence. We exchanged a few weather-related comments, and he mentioned the labyrinth between Metro State’s Library and lower Swede Hollow. He indicated how lucky our neighborhood is to have that nearby; that he has spent a lot of time reflecting on it.

I wondered how many other people find their way to the labyrinth in order to walk the path, perhaps to calm the mind, stimulate creative thought, reflect on some personal awareness, find their emotional, personal way through the intricate and sometimes confusing paths in our world, or simply to enjoy the green and the quietness within an inner-city neighborhood. One weekday I took a break in the garden area of Swede Hollow Café. While there, a woman who lives in the Payne-Phalen area commented to me how refreshing it was to find the garden amidst all the “ugliness” of the surrounding East 7th Street area. I was too surprised at the words to reply to her on that thoughts.

Why do I love an area so much, while other people may see it as ugly? I enjoy the beauty and charming character of East 7th; so much pavement reflecting the sun’s heat. In the winter, the sidewalks become a dangerous slip-and-slide for pedestrians. I regard it as a homely person (and perhaps that is what I am to someone else) who becomes more lovely in my eyes each year. I value the intricate and sometimes confusing nature of the labyrinth beginning last fall, I have watched from the university library windows as the ground was cleared, the maze detailed, and more recently, rocks, benches and plaques installed and flowers planted. In three years, the flowers will have taken root, claiming the space as if they had been there forever. I will have forgotten how plain the area had been in previous years.

As I walk the labyrinth, I think of my deceased Library Dean, David Barton (it was in memory of David that the labyrinth was created). Like the labyrinth, David could seem a bit intimidating until engaging with him (and often, even then). Yet David could be protective of those he respected. Perhaps it stemmed from his conscientious-objector background and that he applied himself to the service of others in exchange for the CO status. I know him, in a sense, as a person who respected Dayton’s Bluffs residents/library patrons, whether they were housed, homeless, literate, or functionally barely managing life. The labyrinth to me, even as I hold it in my mind, brings out the best in Metro State for allotting space to honor Dav id’s self and his values. Well-dressed, well-positioned people attended the recent recognition of community contributions. I do not see anyone I knew from the local homeless shelters or immediate neighborhood. I do know many are now using the pathways, enjoying the green space, and perhaps finding some peace and direction in this sometimes crazy world. I asked our Coalition partner on once on how it could be used. I want to be a part, some dark night, of perhaps 50 people walking the labyrinth each pathway. The Labyrinth Day begins working together as the Lower Palen Area Project. They joined with the DNR and the National Park Service to reclaim 27-acre area to start developing a national landmark that is part of a national recreation area.

Ever think, “Someone should do something…”?
You ARE someone…in Dayton’s Bluff.

Join us at our Community Council meetings. All are open to the public and held at the Community Council office at 798 East 7th Street.

Board of Directors:
3rd Monday each month, 7:00 pm
Land Use Committee:
1st Monday each month, 7:00 pm
Equity Committee:
1st Tuesday each month, 6:30 pm
Vacant Building Committee:
3rd Thursday each month, 6:30 pm
Greenspace Committee:
3rd Thursday each month, 6:30 pm
Ask about our Marketing, Arts and Culture Committees, and Outreach opportunities.

Call 651-672-2075 for more information.

Beautifying the Bluff
by Karin DuPaul

Left to right: Preston Jones, Gary Weinbrud, Harry Gimpel, Ricky Caffey, and Steve Hakala were part of a work crew that put mulch around plantings along the Make It Happen area on East 7th Street and in Swede Hollow Park. Thank you for all the work!
June – July – August

Dayton’s Bluff Community Council

Make it HAPPEN

Dayton’s Bluff Area

SUMMER EVENTS

For Information Call 651-772-2075

Market on the BLUFF

E. 7th Street at Margaret

Every Thursday* – 4 to 8 pm
Local produce, Artists, Crafts, Music, Children’s activities, Food

Mind Munch

Conversations & Lunch – 11 AM to 12:30 PM
Join us for lunch Every Thursday at 798 E 7th Street on our outdoor patio

*Market and Mind Munch every THURSDAY June 13 - August 15 (no July 4th)

National Night Out – Tuesday August 6th – Multiple Locations

2nd Annual
Night Out on E. 7th Street Business & Community Fair
Saturday, August 17th

Dayton’s Bluff District Forum
798 East 7th Street, Saint Paul MN 55106
Phone 651-772-2075  Fax 651-774-3510

YES, I will become a Friend of the Forum.
My tax-deductible check is enclosed, for (circle amount): $100  $50  $25  Other______
Or give online at givemn.razoo.com. Click on ‘donate’ and type in Hopewell Communications.

Your Neighborhood Newspaper Needs Your Help

Dear Reader,
The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum has been around since the late 1970s. It’s a volunteer-run newspaper that has always operated on a minimal budget, but is now facing the possibility that it won’t be able to continue because of economic difficulties.
The large companies in Dayton’s Bluff are gone, and most of the small businesses don’t have the finances to purchase advertisements.
We have to admit that we can no longer rely on ad income alone, though we will keep trying to increase this revenue source. Grants are hard to get these days.
So we are trying this approach: We’d like to get 100 residents to become Friends of the Forum and agree to make annual tax-exempt donations to help the paper continue to mail out neighborhood news on a monthly basis.

Yes, I will become a Friend of the Forum.

Mind Munch

from a DBCC press release

The Dayton’s Bluff Community Council is hosting Mind Munch: a series of FREE weekly community conversations. This lunch & conversation series is taking place every Thursday, from 11:00 am-12:30 pm through mid-August on the outdoor patio at the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council offices, located at 798 East 7th Street. (In the event of rain, Mind Munch will be held indoors at the same address.)

Lunch and conversations are free and open to the public.
Each week will feature a new topic of facilitated conversation relevant to the revitalization of our neighborhood. Each week’s gathering will also employ a different participatory conversation method, introducing participants to new ways of communicating.

Future topics of discussion are:
July 25: Intercultural focus. What do I call you? (Method: Circle)
August 1: Transit (Method: Appreciative Inquiry)
August 8: Housing (Method: World Cafe)
August 15: What Did You Learn from the Conversation Series? (Method: World Cafe)

Funding for the Mind Munch Community Conversation series has been provided by the Bush Foundation.

Friends of the Forum

Thank you! The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum thanks these generous donors who have stepped forward with a monetary gift in support of the Forum.

Randy & Laurie Asunma
Ellen Biales
Bravely Be, Inc.
Carol Carey
Julia Carlson
Beth Cleary & Peter Rachleff
Kendall & Bernadette Clevenger
Jean Comstock
Mary Ann Cogelow
Greg Cosimini
Karin DuPaul
Danny Evans
Mark Gallagher

Bette Johnson
Wayne & Gail Lundeen
David Lyons
Heather Maclaughlin
Jillayne Marrone
Matt Mazanek
Nick & Colleen Misener
John & Nicole Mitchell
Mary Petrie
Stefan & LeeAnn Pomrenke
Rebecca Price
Mona Rath
Carla Riehle
Sharon Sawyer
Vic Tedesco
Steve Trimble

Consider joining them; fill out the form at left.