

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

Volume 26, No. 4

May 2013

www.daytonsbluff.org

"The Voice of the Community"

Veá las páginas 6 y 8 para artículos en español.

Three important projects for East 7th Street

by Deanna Foster,
Executive Director
Dayton's Bluff Community Council

The City of St. Paul is in the process of selecting projects that will be funded by the 2014-'15 Capital Improvement Budget (CIB). Dayton's Bluff has three priority projects that deserve a "thumbs-up" from the CIB advisory board, the city council and the mayor.

A lively commercial district is a primary indicator of a successful neighborhood. Improvements and investment in commercial districts spill over to the residential areas by making the neighborhood a desirable place to live, work and raise a family. Property values rise and quality of life improves.

These projects support larger economic development activities, adding to the neighborhood vitality and economic growth. Making East 7th Street a successful commercial corridor will better connect the East Side to the regional economy, reducing the "leakage" of expenditures to other areas, and creating more economic balance for the East Side.

Project Summaries:

1. **Make it Happen on East 7th Street Safety and Beautification** provides improvements to enhance pedestrian environments and commercial viability. Replacement of sidewalks and placement of trash cans, planters, benches, and signage will create a distinct identity to a business district that is currently the center of major economic development activity.

This project is a central priority in the *Near East Side Roadmap*, adopted by the City as part of the area comprehensive plan. Achieving the redevelopment and economic revitalization goals requires enhancement of the East 7th Street streetscape to make it safe, welcoming and visually attractive to businesses and consumers, residents and visitors. Many of the sidewalks are broken, uneven and deteriorated, while trash cans, benches, planters and other street furniture are nonexistent or in poor condition. There are few streetscape amenities in the Make it Happen district, leaving it lacking any distinct,

How does the kitchen look?



Photo by Karin DuPaul

Get a sneak peek inside some beautiful Dayton's Bluff residences by taking the home tours. The twin home pictured above, at 685-687 East 4th Street, is part of the East 4th Street Preservation Project and will be featured on the Minneapolis/St. Paul Home Tour on Saturday, April 27 from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm and Sunday, April 28 from 1:00-5:00 pm. It will also be part of the Dayton's Bluff Vacant Home Tour on Sunday, May 5, 1:00-5:00 pm.

attractive, or pedestrian-friendly image. The sidewalks create hazardous conditions in both summer and winter, spoiling the pedestrian experience and exposing the city to possible lawsuits and ADA non-compliance.

2. **Revitalization efforts in Dayton's Bluff** include beautification of green space and gathering spots in the Make it Happen on East 7th Street commercial district. This project involves the revitalization of historically-significant Hamm Park, located in the heart of the business district and adjacent to residential homes

(see "Three things," continued on page 3.)

Planning for a better block

by Tabitha DeRango, Dayton's Bluff Community Council

The Better Block, an urban revitalization planning team, came to the Dayton's Bluff Community Council on March 15 and 16 to discuss plans for a June 8 event.

Team Better Block, along with the community of St. Paul, measures function of space in terms of traffic, noise, pedestrians, and bicyclists, hoping to connect people to spaces and places. Long-term, this will translate into frequent use by the neighborhood and visitors.

During the March visit, Andrew Howard of Team Better Block gave some history and effects of local neighborhoods and policy change as a result of these efforts. He has worked around

(see "Better block," continued on page 3.)

Dayton's Bluff Community Council
Make it HAPPEN
on E. 7th Street

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



Photo by Steve Trimble

Team Better Block takes a look around the intersection of Margaret Street and East 7th Street, hoping to generate ideas and inspiration to make the best use of the space.

Friends of Swede Hollow

The next monthly meeting is on **Wednesday, May 8, 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@daytonsbluff.org.

Meet the police

The Eastern District Police hosts its monthly meetings for community members at 722 Payne Avenue, at the corner of Minnehaha Avenue. The next meetings are **Wednesday, May 15, at 6:30 pm, and Friday, May 17, 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, May 2, from 6:30-8:00 pm** at the Dayton's Bluff Community Council office, 798 E. 7th Street. The object is to work on community-building, as well as criminal and nuisance behavior, code enforcement issues, and any other concerns or good things going on in the Bluff.

Confidential complaints about specific properties can be made at 651-266-8989 or dsicomplaints@ci.stpaul.mn.us.

Take-a-Hike May 4

Take-a-Hike occurs on the first Saturday of most months. The next hike will be **Saturday, May 4**. Hikers meet at **10:30 am** in Indian Mounds Park at Earl Street and Mounds Boulevard, and walk to East Side Heritage Park. The hike is about two hours (four miles) with some moderately rough terrain. Enjoy lively conversation including stories about the history of the area. Return transportation is available, if required. All are welcome.

Join STOMP: STewards Of Margaret Park

This group is open to anyone committed to taking an active role in ensuring that Margaret Park remains a safe and beautiful green space with recreational activities for everyone.

Visit us on Facebook for the latest updates and announcements, or to ask questions or share your thoughts. Or visit www.facebook.com/stompmn.

The Forum needs YOU

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 givemrizzo.com under "Hopewell Communications."

We are also now accepting sponsorships at various levels. Email editor @daytonsbluff.org for details.

Please see our ad on the back page of this paper for more information about how to give, and the opportunity for a tax deduction.

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@daytonsbluff.org or 651-772-2075.

Dayton's Bluff Seniors Spaghetti Dinner

The second annual Dayton's Bluff Seniors Spaghetti Dinner and Silent Auction will be held on **Saturday, May 4 at 5:00 pm** at 463 Maria Avenue, in the First Lutheran Church education building. Dayton's Bluff Seniors Living at Home/Block Nurse Program helps seniors continue living in their own home as long as they can.

The event will include live entertainment; auction items include gift certificates and other items from local businesses. Advance ticket purchase recommended. The cost of the event is \$15; or \$10 for seniors and children. For more information, call Dayton's Bluff Seniors at 651-776-7210 ext. 303.

Vacant Home Tour

The Dayton's Bluff Vacant Home Tour will be held **Sunday, May 5**. It will showcase some of the vacant homes in our neighborhood and, it is hoped, find buyers for them. Eight to ten homes will be featured on the tour.

Pick up the map with the locations of the houses between 1:00-5:00 pm at 798 East 7th Street (at the corner of East 7th Street and Margaret). Ride on a 1954 Twin Cities Rapid Transit bus or drive your own vehicle to look at the houses.

Information about loans and home fix-up, and people to answer questions about Dayton's Bluff, will be at 798 East 7th Street.

The Vacant Home Tour is a project of the Dayton's Bluff Vacant Building Committee (DBVBC), which has held six successful tours over the last few years. The tours have brought hundreds of people to look at Dayton's Bluff and its homes.

We are looking for Dayton's Bluff people to help during the tour. Duties include showing the homes, helping the realtor, and telling visitors about our community. Please email karin@daytonsbluff.org or call 651-772-2075.

Plant exchange

The 10th annual Greening Dayton's Bluff Plant Exchange will happen **Saturday, May 11, 9:00-11:00 am** at the corner of East 7th Street and Bates Avenue in the gardens outside Swede Hollow Cafe. Bring plants you no longer want, and take home something new! No orange daylilies, please. For more information, call 651-772-2075 or email karin@daytonsbluff.org.

Upcoming opportunities at Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center

- **Rummage Sale:** Saturday, May 18, 10:00 am-3:00 pm (rain or shine). \$10 for one table or two for \$15 (no furniture or appliances). To reserve a table to sell your items, you must call the rec center at 651-793-3885. For more information on the rummage sale and Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) at Dayton's Bluff, see article on page 6.

● Open gyms:

- 5th grade & under: Mondays, 6:00-7:00 pm; Wednesdays, 6:00-7:30 pm
- 6th-8th grades: Mondays, 7:00-8:00 pm; Tuesdays, 6:00-7:45 pm
- 9th grade & up: Thursdays, 6:00-7:45 pm

● Teen room now open!

- **Free Arts:** Thursdays from 6:00-7:00 pm in the craft room.

- **Free Zumba!** Thursdays, 5:30-6:30 pm in the dance room.



- **Seniors card playing,** every Friday 12:00 noon-4:00 pm.

- **Summer Blast** for grades 1-5, starting June 17, 12:00-5:00 pm. Forms must be picked up and submitted to the rec center.

- **Girls group:** Thursdays 6:15-7:15 pm for ages 12-16.

- **Boys Group:** Mondays 6:00-7:00 pm for ages 12-16.

- Summit Univ. Teen Center is holding a "Adolescent Pregnancy Prevention Program" for boys and girls ages 13-19 every Thursday from 4:30-6:30 pm. For more info call Dorian or Twowana at 651-644-3311.

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

Stop by and check us out!

(Continued from page 1)

Better block: Pop-up market aims to inspire

the country and internationally.

A one-day market will pop up on June 8, from 3:00-8:00 pm. The triangular site bordered by Margaret, East 7th, and Arcade Streets will be invigorated with people and businesses. This type of event shows people what could be, and often inspires the creation of new business. As the Dayton's Bluff community moves forward with its plans for economic development, it is imperative to show the streets' assets and to add services and shops that will draw residents and activity on our commercial streets.

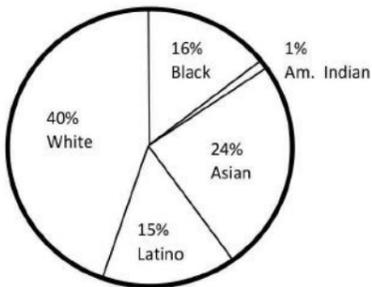
This is a community involvement event! We need people and businesses to try out our street. Have an idea? Have you wanted to try a plan? Do you have an existing business that wants to expand to another area? We want to utilize existing community resources. We will also need to gather volunteers from the community and city to plan, build and create this space.

Keep an eye out for community build dates to make art, furniture, etc. for the streets. Come, be a part of this exciting event for Dayton's Bluff and the city of St. Paul. Visit saintpaul.teambetterblock.com, or call 651-772-2075.

Champion for equity

By Deanna Foster
Executive Director, Dayton's Bluff
Community Council

Dayton's Bluff Community Council presented the annual Equity Champion award for outstanding legislative leader-



Dayton's Bluff is home to a rich diversity of cultures and ethnicities.

ship to Minnesota State Representative Sheldon Johnson (District 67B). Representative Johnson demonstrated a strong commitment to the advancement of Equity through leadership and legislative votes that support racial and cultural communities in the state. This was based on the 2012 Minnesota Legislative Report Card on Racial Equity by the Organizing Apprenticeship Project. By building awareness about the disparate impact of legislation on diverse communities, Johnson stayed true to the Community Council's goal of "just and fair inclusion of all."

Overcoming disparities means changing the institutions and structures that

create and support them. We need to make educational opportunities truly available, regardless of a community's wealth; and make sure that people of color have access to job training and jobs in growing industries; and that minority owned businesses have equal opportunities for business growth and property ownership. Legislative leaders and leaders at the local level must work together to develop these kinds of solutions. The Dayton's Bluff Community Council supports the continuation of this work in order that we move forward toward a more just and equitable Minnesota.



Congratulations to Representative Sheldon Johnson, an outstanding leader working for racial and economic equity by eliminating barriers to opportunity.

(Continued from page 1)

Three things: Community involvement needed for revitalization

and new developments.

The half-acre Hamm Park is an invaluable asset that has been neglected in recent years. The park is overgrown, unwelcoming and unused. This restoration plan for the park includes walkways leading into the park from different points, creating passages into the center of the park. Through a community engagement process, we plan to create a "game" along the walkway that offers educational play, incorporating community history and diversity. We propose adding a zero-depth fountain for a relaxing environment and water play. The landscaping would feature sustainable plantings with drip irrigation and hardy local plants. There will be careful attention to aesthetic design as well as safety features that allow for visual access to all areas of the park. The stone garden placed in the neighborhood by the Hamm family will be restored, and a plaque will be added to recount the historical significance to residents and visitors.

3. **Federal Transportation Enhancement project around the Beacon Bluff Hub and East 7th Street.** The Federal TE project also includes sidewalk work and streetscape enhancements in areas adjacent to the Make it Happen project. Certain cost savings will be realized by putting the two projects together.

Make the effort to express your support for these important projects. Contact Mayor Chris Coleman and your city council representative. *Make it Happen!*

Winning teen artists share Art in the Hollow poster designs



by Karin DuPaul, Dayton's Bluff Community Organizer

Three Johnson High School students are the winners of the Art in the Hollow poster contest.

Michaela Thompson, First prize winner, is pictured above. With her are, left to right: Romi Slowiak, Art in the Hollow Project Manager; Kent Miller, Johnson High School teacher; and Roy Hunn, Keys Café owner and prize donor.

Second prize was won by Sydney Oliver (not pictured).

Third prize winner, at left: Hlisnra Xiong, pictured with Miller, Hunn, and Slowiak.

Watch for copies of the posters out in the neighborhood advertising Art in the Hollow, which will be Saturday, June 1, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm in Swede Hollow Park. More information at www.artinthehollow.org.

Kollos Design
Graphic Design | Web Design
Web Development | Technical Writing
Wordpress | Twitter | Facebook
kollosdesign.net



Photos courtesy of Friends of Swede Hollow

Dayton's Bluff Seniors appreciate volunteers all year long

by Carolyn Heim, Volunteer Coordinator, Dayton's Bluff Seniors

Dayton's Bluff Seniors is so grateful for each of our volunteers' positive energy, commitment and contributions of time to make lives better for the senior residents of Dayton's Bluff. Our volunteers' work in the community is essential to those who now need a helping hand after giving so much of themselves over the years.

We wish to introduce you to one of our volunteers, and hope that his brief story may inspire you to volunteer.

Please meet Jason Schemenauer, a Cottage Grove insurance agent who lives with his terrific wife and their adorable little boy. Jason has been delivering groceries to the seniors for a year and a half, and says that he has always enjoyed helping people.

When asked to name a person whom he admires, he said, "My little sister, who has cerebral palsy and is confined to a wheelchair. She has overcome many obstacles in her life, and at the end of the day continues to have a positive outlook on life."

Jason hopes to continue volunteering and finding new ways to help the community. "Working with Dayton's Bluff Seniors has helped me realize that it doesn't take much effort to make a big difference," he says. The seniors truly appreciate his kindness by sharing pictures and stories of their lives with him, giving him home-baked goodies, and even crocheting a blanket for Jason's son.

If you can spare an hour or two of your time and would like to meet some of the nicest and most interesting people in Dayton's Bluff, give us a call at 651-776-7210 ext. 303 or visit us at www.daytonsbuffseniors.org.



Photo courtesy of Mounds Park United Methodist Church

A little unseasonably snowy weather didn't dampen spirits at the annual Mounds Park UMC Egg Hunt, held the Saturday before Easter.

Mounds Park United Methodist Church

Every Sunday at MPUMC:

Sunday School: 9:15 am for adults, children & youth

Sunday Service: 10:30 am; coffee, juice, and treats afterward

Other Special Events:

Sunday, May 5:

Kids & Family Club: 4:00-5:30 pm; Youth Outing: 4:00-5:30 pm

Saturday, May 18:

Glorious Grocery Giveaway: 10:30 am. One free bag of groceries to all.

Community BBQ: 4:30 pm. Celebrate the coming of Urban CROSS – Great food, great neighbors, activities for the kids (including a potential visit by the fire department). Hot dogs, drinks, and sides provided, but if you have some special food you'd like to share, and/ a grill, you are welcome to bring those.

Looking ahead:

June 10-14 (Monday-Friday):

Urban CROSS neighborhood service opportunity (see article below)

Wednesday, June 12:

Community BBQ and Concert hosted by Urban CROSS at Indian Mounds Regional Park. Hot dogs and hamburgers, drinks, sides and dessert provided, as well as music by Church of the Resurrection (Kansas City) Youth Orchestra and Hand Bell Choir. Dinner at 5:30 pm, with the concert following. Bring your blanket or lawn chairs, family and neighbors.

Urban C.R.O.S.S.

(Christians Reaching Out in Service in St. Paul)

A ministry of Mounds Park United Methodist Church

The organizers of Urban CROSS are looking for residents and non-profit organizations who could use a hand. If you have a project that you need help with such as: painting, yardwork, landscaping, cleanup, simple construction or repair, please contact us. We invite other youth from churches all over to join us for a week of an "Urban Makeover" the second week of June. Teams of youth demonstrate the love of God through serving the people of St. Paul's residential East Side. Please complete the form at www.moundsparkumc.org/urbancross.html, if you would like our help. **Deadline for requests is May 15, 2013.**

If you would like to donate to Urban CROSS, we are always in need of: tools, supplies, paint, painting equipment, printing, staff t-shirts; food for the teams/staff; or even scholarships for youth. To make a financial donation, please send a check or money order written out to "Mounds Park UMC." (Please be sure to write "Urban CROSS" in the memo line of the check or money order.) All gifts are tax deductible. Please ask for a receipt if needed. Contact Eric Buck, Youth Director, at 612-559-2369 or urbancross.st.paul@gmail.com.

May at the Historic Mounds Theatre

by Raeann Ruth, Executive Director, The Historic Mounds Theatre

WAR OF THE WORLDS

The Martian invasion continues in May. *War of the Worlds*, a play by Howard Koch, will be performed by the Mounds Theatre Community Players as a live theatrical radio drama on May 3 and 4 at 7:00 pm, with a special matinee on May 5 at 2:00 pm.

This special presentation at the Historic Mounds Theatre commemorates the 75th Anniversary of the Orson Welles radio broadcast that chilled the nation. It is based on the original science fiction classic *The War of the Worlds* by H.G. Wells. Hurry! The invasion won't last forever. Tickets are available online.

THANK GOD I'M FABULOUS

On May 10 at 9:00 pm, the Historic Mounds Theatre hosts an extraordinary show of illusion and glamour, bringing the time-honored art of DRAG back to its historical vaudeville theatre roots. Song and dance, fishnets and feathers, high heels and even higher hair – the East Side has never looked so good!

Hosted by Foxy Tann and the Mistress Victoria DeVille, this extravaganza features the finest entertainers in the Midwest, including: Barbara Gordon, Bruce Sprungsteen, Esme Rodriguez, Hank Heat, Lucy Furr, Lady Swallows, Vincent Van Gogh Gogh and starring drag icon, The Showgirl of The North, Camille Collins.

Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$15 at the door. VIP seating is also available.

PARANORMAL INVESTIGATING

Have you ever wanted to be a paranormal investigator but aren't sure how to investigate a location that is haunted or unsure on how to understand how EMF meters and EVP devices work? Would you like to know more about the Paranormal?

Join the team from the Minnesota Paranormal Investigators Group on May 18 as they show you the tools of the trade and teach you about the paranormal. Then join them afterward as they investigate the Historic Haunted Mounds Theater.

The class runs from 4:00-6:00 pm, covering the basic topics of spirit photography, electronic voice phenomena (EVP) and other tools of the trade. Following a break (dinner is not provided), the investigation of the Historic Haunted Mounds Theater will run from 8:00 pm to midnight. It will begin with a brief history of the Mounds and the paranormal events that have been witnessed there. We will then break up into small groups to begin the investigations.

Tickets are \$75.00 per person and can be purchased on our website.

TOIL AND TROUBLE BURLESQUE

Burlesque returns to the Historic Mounds Theatre on May 25. Doors open at 6:00 pm and then again at 9:30 pm. You don't want to miss this night of sultry fun.

Watch the Mounds Theatre website for additional information.

For more information and to purchase your tickets online, please go to www.moundstheatre.org.

The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106.

MOUNDS PARK BARBER STYLISTS

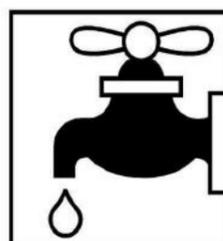


651-771-6980

APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE TUESDAY THRU SATURDAY

1043 HUDSON ROAD SAINT PAUL, MN 55106

Judy Lee



Fix up your home now!

We are a non-profit agency eager to help you accomplish your home repairs using the latest green rehab techniques that may lower your energy costs.

There is no cost assistance for eligible homebuyers. We offer payback loans with low interest rates (1-3%) and special programs that do not require payments. Call 651.774.6995 to see if you qualify.

Yog koj xav paub ntxiv hu rau 651-774-9064



Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services 823 7th Street East St. Paul, MN 55106 651.774.6995-office www.dbnhs.org





Photos by Karin DuPaul

Dayton's Bluff supporters enjoyed a gourmet meal for the benefit of the Community Council. Pictured above, left to right, are Mike of Metro Liquor; Teri Banaseuki and Tammy Klinkhamer from University Bank, and Ramsey County Commissioner Rafael Ortega.

Successfully dining out for the Bluff

The Fourth Annual Dayton's Bluff Fundraising Dinner, held April 8 at the Strip Club Meat & Fish, was very successful. The food was excellent, and attendees were able to hear about the progress with Make it Happen on East 7th Street. State Representative Sheldon Johnson received a certificate of appreciation for his A rating from the Organizing Apprenticeship Project. The recognition is based on his votes to support racial equity, whether by voting in favor of positive bills or against bills that would expand structural racism.

Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center YIT (Youth in Transition) staff and youth announced that the youth have recorded a CD that will soon be available for sale.

Funds raised from the dinner will be used to pay for the free Community Dinner that will be held in October.



Pictured above, left to right: Carrie Obry, Mike Grealish, Tom Cook, Brian Towne, Amy Holland and Bill Holland.

- CALLING ALL ARTISTS AND ARTISANS -

Art in the Hollow wants your talent, crafts and handiwork

"Art in the Hollow," the annual art fest in lovely Swede Hollow Park, is once again seeking artists, artisans, and performers. This year's event, scheduled for Saturday, June 1, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, promises to surpass even last year's re-sounding success in the number, variety, and quality of offerings.

The main requirement is that all items exhibited for sale must have been done by the person showing them. Though ethnic art is especially welcome, no "Made in China" labels will be allowed. Not even "Made in California," since a major purpose of the art fest is to encourage our local artists and artisans. Creating on-site is strongly encouraged.

Diversity in performance artists, too, is desired. Last year's event featured singers, dancers, instrumentalists, and poetry-readers, along with storytellers who told about the various groups of immigrants who once lived in Swede Hollow, long before the deep ravine became St. Paul's most beautiful city park.

Though vehicles are not usually allowed in the park, volunteers and a couple of special vehicles will be available to help transport artists and their supplies into the Hollow. There will be extra assistance for participants with disabilities.

To obtain registration materials, go to www.artinthehollow.org or contact Friends of Swede Hollow president Karin DuPaul at 651-776-0550 or karindupaul@comcast.net.

Turn to page 3 to see the teen winners of the Art in the Hollow poster contest!

Friends of the Forum

If you believe in this community newspaper, turn to page 8 for an opportunity to help keep it going! Become a Friend of the Forum today.



East Side Family Clinic excited to open new doors

from a West Side Family Health Services press release

West Side Community Health Services (WSCHS), which broke ground last fall on a 34,000 square-foot replacement facility for its East Side Family Clinic, announces the new site, at 895 East 7th Street, will be open for business as of Monday, April 29, 2013.

The new, state-of-the-art building doubles clinical space for WSCHS on St. Paul's East Side, and will allow WSCHS to increase medical care, including dental and mental health services, to residents of the East Side community. The new clinic features:

- Culturally competent staff in all areas of primary care, including pediatrics
- On-site pharmacy filling prescriptions with shorter waiting times
- Prevention, education and care coordination for chronic disease management
- Care for uninsured individuals, based on a sliding fee scale
- Assistance with insurance for patients of all ages
- 20 dental operatories with preventive and restorative care, opening the summer of 2013

WSCHS' decision to move and expand was based on the growing need for affordable medical and dental services on the East Side. "By increasing the clinic's presence in the community and making affordable health services more accessible, everyone benefits," said Dr. Jaeson Fournier, CEO of WSCHS. "We've been informing our patients that doors are open, and have received a lot of enthusiasm already. We think once people come and see the space, and learn about expanded services, it will make for a better experience overall for staff and patients. Our hope is patients will spread word to others as well, to make us their clinic of choice."

The new East Side Family Clinic retains its current phone number: patients should call 651-772-9757. A community-based and patient-directed organization, WSCHS expects to serve the medical, mental health, and dental needs of more than 11,000 patients through the new East Side Family Clinic. West Side Community Health Services has delivered quality, affordable health care to the community since 1972. Its mission is to strengthen the well-being of our community through health care for all.



Instead of watching TV, make TV!

If you have the **desire to produce television** to express yourself, to get your point across, to help your neighbors, or to change your community for the better, we can help!



(651) 224-5153
www.spnn.org

375 Jackson St., Ste 250
Saint Paul, MN 55101

Huge community rummage sale May 18 to support ECFE

by Daniela Bell, Dayton's Bluff ECFE
Advisory Council

As a Minnesota parent, I'm constantly on the lookout for new-to-us clothes for the coming season, knowing full well that last year's summer outfits will no longer fit my suddenly-taller four-year-old. Similarly, toys that were once "da best toy EVER, Mami!" (in the words of said four-year-old) are now somehow old hat. New developmental milestones reached means new, more challenging puzzles and games are needed to keep her busy, learning, and happy. Knowing that clothes and toys are likely to occupy our lives for a relatively short amount of time, my daughter's penchant for wearing incredibly outgrown pajamas notwithstanding, constantly buying brand-new kids stuff is rarely a priority for our family.

Many parents and caregivers of babies, toddlers, and small children share these experiences. To help in the search for good quality children's toys and clothing, the Advisory Council at Dayton's Bluff Early Childhood Family Education (ECFE) is participating in a large community sale on Saturday, May 18 at Dayton's Bluff Recreation Center, 800 Conway Street. The sale will run from 10:00 am to 4:00 pm. The Advisory Council will be selling children's clothes and toys, all donated by the families in the Dayton's Bluff ECFE program. Other vendors will also be present at the sale, including those selling things for grown-ups too. This will be a real community-wide event and we, the members of the Advisory Council and ECFE families in general, are looking forward to meeting you and your family.

The community sale is the Advisory Council's main fundraiser for the year. Funds raised support the ECFE program in a variety of ways. Primarily, we help fund the purchase of classroom supplies and materials, from play-mats to puzzles to technological appliances like LCD projectors – anything to support learning for children and parents alike.

With funds raised, we also help to subsidize transportation for the ECFE program: specifically, school buses for the field trips Dayton's Bluff ECFE takes every year. These field trips include an autumn apple orchard visit, music concerts for preschoolers, and a trip

to Dodge Nature Farm. The field trips significantly improve the experiences of the children by incorporating learning outside the classroom. Bus transportation, however, is expensive for the ECFE program itself to fund. Advisory Council is pleased to provide the funds that mean our community's young children get these extra opportunities for learning.

The program of Early Childhood Family Education is dedicated to promoting learning among our youngest children – before they even get to pre-K or Kindergarten. ECFE believes that the family is a child's first learning environment and parents are children's first and most-important teachers. As such, ECFE is devoted to providing parents with the skills and tools to encourage learning in their children. Young children learn primarily through play, so ECFE offers a large variety of play-based opportunities and materials, including music, art, sensory activities, large movement play, creative play, math-based games, learning about spatial relationships, encouraging writing and reading, etc.

The program also includes parent learning about diverse topics central to parenting. Topics include parenting goals, positive discipline, emotional coaching, eating and nutrition in young children, encouraging positive sibling relationships, and how to develop and teach one's children about one's values as a family.

ECFE is dedicated to strengthening families as a whole. Dayton's Bluff ECFE is committed to including members from all parts of our community: there are two Spanish language classes and a class for African-American members of our community, but all classes reflect the racial and socioeconomic diversity of our neighborhood. If you are interested in Dayton's Bluff ECFE, please visit ecfe.spps.org or the Dayton's Bluff ECFE Advisory Council's Facebook page.

If you are looking for that next great toy, book, or the next cutest outfit for your kid, your grandkid, your niece, nephew, your neighbor's new baby, be sure to stop by and check out the sale on Saturday, May 18, 2013 10:00 am to 4:00 pm, at the Dayton's Bluff Rec Center, 800 Conway Street.

Gran venta de la comunidad, para la comunidad

El Consejo Consultivo del Dayton's Bluff Programa Familiar Educación Prescolar tendrá un gran venta de garaje en el día de Sabado, 18 de Mayo en el Rec Center de Dayton's Bluff, 800 Conway Street. La venta sigue de las 10:00 de la mañana hasta las 5:00 de la tarde. El Consejo Consultivo vendrá ropa de bebes y niños y libros para niños, y juguetes en condición bueno. También va a ser otros proveedores, vendiendo otras cosas para la gente, niños y no. ¡El Consejo Consultivo de la Programa Familiar

Educación Prescolar espera que nos vemos allí!

La venta es el gran recaudación de fondos para el Consejo Consultivo del Dayton's Bluff Programa Familiar Educación Prescolar. El Consejo recauda fondos para ayuda la programa en comprar materiales nuevos para los niños y para la educación de los padres también. La programa en Dayton's Bluff tiene dos clases en Español. Por favor sigue al ecfe.spps.org para más información.



Photos courtesy of the Community Design Center of Minnesota

Share in the youthful exuberance of the Community Design Center's interns at the May 9 birthday party and fundraising dinner, to be held at the beautiful Dodge Nature Center's Education Center in West St. Paul (pictured below).

Birthday party & fundraising dinner to launch Community Design Center's new name

by Luke Nichols, Community Engagement Coordinator,
Community Design Center of Minnesota

With spring on its way, the Community Design Center of Minnesota, your neighbor at 731 East 7th Street, is preparing for a busy summer season. We are gearing up to send our summer youth interns into the community to take care of our six vegetable gardens, teach education classes, and install boulevard rain gardens, to name a few activities. After 44 years serving our community under the name of the Community Design Center of Minnesota, we are adopting a new name to better reflect our work.

What will our new name be? We cannot tell you yet, but you are invited to attend our Birthday Party and Fundraising Dinner on Thursday, May 9, where we will officially announce our new name. This celebration and dinner

starts at 6:00 pm and will be catered by World Street Kitchen, with a menu designed by Chef Sameh Wadi, a James Beard Award semi-finalist and Iron Chef Contestant. Dinner costs \$100 per person and will include three courses with a wine accompaniment. The event proceeds will support our youth gardening, cooking, and conservation programs. The dinner will be held at Dodge Nature Center's education center in West St. Paul. You will be able to meet our youth interns, place a bid on our exciting silent auction items, and be the among the first to know our new name. Please register online at bitly.com/cdc-birthday.

The Community Design Center was founded in 1969 by a group of architects, providing architectural design support to community groups and residents. Over time, our work has evolved to what we do today: gardening, nutrition, and conservation programs that provide youth internships, action projects, and hands-on educational classes. We reach nearly 1,500 kids and parents through our programs, including 45 youth interns each year. Our new name will reflect our history and mission to build vibrant and healthy communities through food, conservation, and youth development.

We hope you can join us as we start the next phase of our journey! For more information, please visit our website at www.cdcmn.org.



LOCALLY OWNED & OPERATED

BEST PAWN

NOW OFFERING
DISC REPAIR
CDs, DVDs,
Games!

MONEY TO LOAN WE BUY/WE SELL

ATVS, Motorcycles, Jewelry, Coins, Electronics,
Collectibles, Nearly Anything of Value

VISIT OUR TWO LOCATIONS!

651-228-1847
966 West 7th St.
One Block West of the Brewery

651-209-0398
525 East 7th St.
Two Blocks East of Red Savoy's

NOW OPEN until 8PM (M-F) 6PM (Sat)

SPANGLER AND DE STEFANO
PLLP
COUNSELORS OF LAW

Are you aware that if you enter into a stock purchase agreement to purchase a business that you also purchased the businesses' debts?

Call Spangler and de Stefano, PLLP at (651) 776-2900 for your business law needs.

962 St. Clair Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55105
www.spangleranddestefano.com



"If that was then, is then now?"

article and photo by Steve Trimble,
Forum historian

As many readers realize, the headline for this month's history article is a takeoff on the title of the movie "That Was Then, This is Now," much of which was shot in Dayton's Bluff and other East Side locations. What I had in mind was that, in many ways, although the neighborhood has changed over the years, many things are still the same.

As urban historians often point out, cities are always in flux. People move in and out, new businesses replace former fixtures, different congregations fill area church buildings. They would not be surprised that some of the changes over the last 150 years in this community fit into an almost predictable pattern.

Let's look at some of things that concern the residents of Dayton's Bluff and see if these are due to our modern times. Recent community meetings have shown that people are upset by the presence of crime, and others were concerned about the actions of young people. Is this really new? Hardly.

A century ago, an East Side newspaper's article "Hoodlums on the Waters" reported that a group of concerned citizens was demanding an increase in the number of lights in Phalen Park. They complained that "several boats loaded with rowdies" were often insulting people with "indecent songs" and "ribald jest." According to the article, they used "language... unfit for gentle ears" and their "lascivious songs and curses rang out over the waters and ruined all the beauties of the night."

Going back further, the *Pioneer Press* of January, 1884 had the headline "Murder on the Bluff." According to them, Peter Kask, known as "State Prison Kask" was killed "in the shanty he calls home, numbered 917 Hudson Avenue." The 58-year-old Norwegian wood sawyer was murdered by a man named Johnson who lived with him in "a 16x10 shanty divided into two rooms with a shed behind."

Another example: Recent census data shows the neighborhood's changing demographics. The population of older whites is dropping and the numbers of other groups, including Asians, Latinos, and African Americans, are increasing. Different people, but a similar pattern.

As in the past, new groups open stores to take care of their own cultural tastes. Today, Latino and Asian restaurants, groceries and specialty stores line East 7th Street and Payne Avenues, the same way that German and Italian establishments once did.

Since the beginning of the Dayton's Bluff community, new groups quickly found places to practice their religious beliefs. One example is the start of Peace United Church, most recently located at 940 Reaney Avenue, founded in 1880 and initially named "*Die Deutsche Evangelische Reformierten Friedens Gemeinnde*," sometimes referred to as "The Little Swiss Church."

A new church structure was built in 1912; while it was under construction, the congregation met at another ethnically-oriented group's home: the Norwegian Lutheran Church then located at Reaney and Earl. By that time, the Peace United services were given in both German and in English. Now they may well be in Spanish, since a few years ago a Latino congregation purchased the building from the original church.

Sometimes you hear complaints that the newcomers don't mix, staying to themselves. So what's new? This happens now, with Hmong groups forming Hmong American Partnership, but over a century ago Irish residents had their own organizations. In November, 1887, the Dayton's Bluff Irish National League gave its first social dance at Workman's Hall at Mendota and Margaret. Some of the members in charge included I. H. Farrel, M. Conroy, James Doyle, Coleman Flaherty and William G. Mulligan.

And, in March, 1894, a Dayton's Bluff German-American Club met at the Kaltenhauser Hall, also listed as being at the corner of Margaret and Mendota. I'm not sure if it was the same building or on a different corner of the streets. Earlier immigrant groups had their own establishments. One was the Schornstein Grocery (pictured above), still standing at 707 Wilson Avenue. It was an 1880s grocery store and saloon with a sizable room in the upper stories used for receptions, dances and other gatherings.

Many of the new ethnic groups in St. Paul have started their own newspapers, some in their own language. In the way-back time, there was a German language daily newspaper – the *Volkszeitung* – headquartered in St. Paul and headed by Dayton's Bluff residents.

I realize here that I have strayed somewhat from what could be considered an objective presentation of facts. Think of it as a bit of comparative history. Here's the point: specifics change, but historic patterns remain. The new residents are not that different from the old ones. So the next time you hear someone bemoan the changes taking place in our neighborhood, you might respond by saying, "the more things change, the more they stay the same."

View from my porch

by Sage Holben
Dayton's Bluff Community Council

Kids have been on my mind as they bring our streets to life with their bursting energies in the warming weather. Soon we'll witness a boy thwacking a traffic sign with a supple branch that has aged beneath the winter snow. Annoying, sometimes, but it's what kids do. Hearing a teen yell from one end of the block to the other, I resist the temptation to yell, "QUIET!" Tossing stones at a stop sign – not purposely destructive – perhaps just watching how much power it takes to make the metal sides shudder, or to hear the thud of rock against metal. No, not smart if a car nears.

Every year it seems I prepare myself for the action on the street and how it relates to us, the adult residents. It seems a choice is made: "us against them" or "communication and redirecting." It happens like this:

One Saturday last summer, five kids between the ages of eight and 14, boys and girls, caught my attention. One boy was pounding my neighbor's picket fence with a heavy claw hammer. In a friendly but firm voice, I called out to him to please stop, as my neighbor cares about the fence and couldn't afford to have it mended if he broke it. He replied, "Okay," and stopped. Ten minutes later, the kids had taken down a barrier of twine, stakes and plastic buckets, protecting another neighbor's freshly blacktopped driveway and parking area. They weren't being mean, just kids, whose hands search for any activity, completely out of touch with their minds.

I took a deep breath and a measure of myself to know I could set my tone of voice to calm and relax my body. "Hi, kids." They looked up, the hammering against the sturdy tree ceased. "Hey, I see the strings and stakes fell down across the drive. The owner would be disappointed; he just had the drive paved and wants to protect it. Here, could you please hammer the stake back in?" Handing one end of the twine to another child, "Could you please tie it on to the stake?" Then we sat on the replaced buckets and introduced ourselves. I learned that they found the hammer in the Budget Tire lot. "Wonderful. I know the owner and can give it back." I was handed the hammer with no argument. "I've never seen you kids in the neighborhood before; where do you live?" "Near Sun Ray. We didn't have anything to do, so we took the bus here to hang out."

At first they indicated they didn't know anyone in the neighborhood. Twenty minutes later, when I saw they had added two bikes and a scooter to their cluster, I went again to talk with them. One bike, they said was from a friend's house up the hill, as was the scooter. The other bike was from an unknown person's yard. "So, you don't know the owner, but you took the bike..." "That's stealing, you mean," the boy replied. I suggested we take it to my porch so the unknown owner would be able to find it, which he did within the hour. They passed the afternoon with no trouble, coming back once or twice to talk. I don't remember their names, but they are welcome back anytime.

Be somebody 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:
Tuesday, May 7, 5:00 pm

Vacant Building Committee:
3rd Thursday each month, 6:30 pm

Greenspace Committee:
3rd Monday each month, 6:00 pm

Ask about our **Marketing, Arts and Cultures, and Outreach Committees.**

Call 651-772-2075 for more information.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

798 East 7th Street, St. Paul, MN 55106

Phone: 651-772-2075 Fax: 651-774-3510 E-mail: editor@daytonsbluff.org

Monthly Circulation: 7,500

Also available online at www.daytonsbluff.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@daytonsbluff.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 area. Outside this area, subscriptions cost \$15 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

Next issue: June 2013. Deadline for material: May 10, 2013.

Immigration forum a big success

*by Rafael Espinosa, Board member
Dayton's Bluff Community Council*

On Saturday, March 23, the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and Sacred Heart Church held an informational forum at the church about changes to immigration laws that may be made in the near future.

The meeting was attended by about 75 people who were eager to learn about what's going on with immigration reform. John Keller of the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota, did a great job leading the forum! Call or email the Immigrant Law Center at 1-800-223-1368 or oficinalegal@ilcm.org. The web-site is www.ilcm.org.

The location was perfect, because this church has traditionally been very welcoming and accommodating to immigrants, since the days of holding mass in German for those neighbors, to today's mass held in Spanish.

Plans are underway for another forum that will focus on immigrants' labor rights. Watch for a notice in next month's paper.

East Side residents may also be interested in a May 1 march for workers' rights that will take place in St. Paul sponsored by Mesa Latina. It will assemble at 3:00 pm at Central Presbyterian Church, 500 Cedar Street, St. Paul (at the corner of Cedar and Exchange Streets). More details on Facebook (search for 1 de Mayo/May Day "Día Internacional de la Clase de Trabajadores" or 612-246-1149.

Foro de inmigración fue un gran éxito

*por Rafael Espinosa, miembro de la mesa directiva
de la Junta Comunitaria de Dayton's Bluff.*

El sábado, 23 de marzo, la Junta Comunitaria de Dayton's Bluff e la Iglesia Sagrado Corazón tuvieron un foro de información en la iglesia acerca de cambios a las leyes inmigratorias que pueden resultar en estos días.

La reunión fue asistida por aproximadamente 75 personas que estuvieron ansiosas de aprender acerca de lo que está pasando con la reforma de inmigración. John Keller del Immigrant Law Center de Minnesota, hizo un gran trabajo en dirigir el foro. Si tiene preguntas llame o mande un correo electrónico al Immigrant Law Center de Minnesota al 1-800-223-1368 o oficinalegal@ilcm.org. El sitio web es www.ilcm.org.

La ubicación fue perfecta, porque esta iglesia tradicionalmente le ha dado la bienvenida y ha ayudado mucho a inmigrantes, desde los días que tenían misa en Alemán para esos vecinos hasta ahora que tienen misa en Español.

Hay planes en camino para otro foro que se centrará en derechos del trabajo de inmigrantes. Habrá una nota en este papel de mes próximo.

Los residentes del East Side también pueden estar interesados en un la marcha del Primero de Mayo para los derechos de trabajadores que será en St. Paul y es patrocinada por Mesa Latina. Sea inicia a las tres de la tarde a Central Presbyterian Church, 500 Cedar St, (en las calles Cedar y Exchange, en el centro de San Pablo). Más información en Facebook (busque a Mayo/May Day "Día Internacional de la Clase de Trabajadores") o 612-246-1149.



Photo courtesy of Rafael Espinosa

Above: John Keller of the Immigrant Law Center of Minnesota leads the March 23 immigration forum.

Dayton's Bluff
DistrictForum

798 East 7th Street, Saint Paul MN 55106
Phone 651-772-2075 Fax 651-774-3510

YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD NEWSPAPER NEEDS YOUR HELP

Dear Reader,

The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* has been around since the late 1970s. It's an all volunteer 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 pay for 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 going to try a new approach. We are trying to get one hundred 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.

If you value having a community source of information, please consider filling out the form below and enclose a check. Any amount would be appreciated.

Thank you,
Dayton's Bluff District Forum Board: Greg Cosimini; Steve Trimble; Carla Riehle; Karin DuPaul
Editor, Meg Gronau; Editorial Assistants: Mark Gallagher and Danny Evans

Yes, I will become a *Friend of the Forum*.

My tax-deductible check for \$100 _____ \$50 _____ \$25 _____ Other _____ is enclosed.

Or, to give online, go to <http://givemn.razoo.com>, click on "donate" and type in Hopewell Communications.

Name/s _____ Email _____

Address _____ ZIP _____ Phone _____

Make check out to Dayton's Bluff District Forum and mail it to the address at the top of the page. For more information, contact Karin at 651-772-2075 or karin@daytonsbuff.org.

*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.

Ellen Biales

**ESABA
(East Side Area
Business Association)**

Carol Carey

Jean Comstock

Karin DuPaul

Danny Evans

Carla Riehle

Consider joining them; fill out the form at left.