Dayton’s Bluff Community Council to hold Annual Meeting and Board Elections

Dayton’s Bluff Community Council Staff

Please join us on Monday, December 21, for the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council Annual Meeting and Board Elections. We want to thank the Board, staff, and the community for making this an amazing year. All are invited to attend and local food will be served.

We encourage all residents to become leaders in their community. Sitting on the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council (DBCC) Board of Directors is an opportunity to represent the interests of your community and to guide the Council and the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood to a bright and prosperous future.

To ensure that all have an opportunity to cast their vote in this election, we have created the following 2015 absentee/early voting schedule:

**December 14-17,** from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.,
**December 18,** from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.,
**December 21,** from 8:00 a.m. to noon, and 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

All voting will take place at the East Side Enterprise Center (ESEC) located at: 804 Margaret Street, Saint Paul, 55106.

Call 651-772-2075 for more information.

The DBCC will follow the Minnesota voter identification requirements. These requirements can be viewed at http://mn-votesinfo.sos.state.mn.us/voters/voter-registration/eligibility-instructions/.

Community members must meet at least one of the voter identification requirements to prove residency in Dayton’s Bluff in order to receive a ballot.

The one exception to the state of Minnesota voter eligibility is age. Per the DBCC by-laws, membership shall be granted to anyone 16 years of age or older who resides, owns property, or owns or operates a business within the boundaries. Each member is eligible to cast one vote in organization elections.

A locked/sealed ballot box will be available at ESEC on the dates and times outlined above. Ballots will be color coded by sub-district and contain the names of all candidates in that sub-district that filed by the December 1, 5:00 p.m. CST deadline. All at-large candidates that filed by the December 1, 5:00 p.m. CST deadline will be included on all ballots.

Community members will be required to show proof of residency, per Minnesota voter identification requirements. Once residency has been validated, all voters will sign in via a sign-in sheet. Voters will be provided with the appropriate sub-district ballot.

Copies of all board candidate applications will be available for voter review at ESEC.

See “Elections,” continued on page 3.
**January 23:** Bulldog Community Theater presents Agatha Christie's The Mousetrap.

**January 26:** The Mounds Theater presents IWI Wrestling.

**February 16:** The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 463 Maria Avenue, St. Paul.

**February 16:** The Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Class is starting in the spring of 2016. This program helps startup and young businesses on the East Side. All East Side entrepreneurs are welcome. Class training lasts eight weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, one-on-one assistance with creating a successful business, and preparing a business plan, plus eight hours of one-on-one time with the instructor.

Those who successfully complete the course and locate their businesses in target neighborhoods are eligible for ongoing business support services. Some examples of businesses started by people who have previously taken this course include graphics, landscaping, photography, food service, restoration of wood furniture, art, custom floral design, and exterior and interior painting.

The course is sponsored by the Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Council and the Neighborhood Development Center. There is a small registration fee based on a sliding scale. The next session will include topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, one-on-one assistance with creating a successful business, and preparing a business plan, plus eight hours of one-on-one time with the instructor.

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Elections: Meet the Candidates

At large: Laura Kidd

My name is Laura Kidd (family name White Eagle). I have lived in St. Paul for over 40 years and moved to the East Side in 2002. I am a homeowner, mother of two daughters, and I have four grandchildren. I attend Metropolitan State University. Upon completion of my Bachelor's degree, I plan to enroll in a Technical Communications Master's program.

I have a wealth of work experience in health care and community outreach. While working at the tribal branch office of my Ho-Chunk Nation, Health Partners St. Paul Clinic, American Indian Family Center, Native American Community Clinic, and currently at the Minnesota Organization on Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (MOFAS), I gained a wealth of knowledge about how disparities within different systems impact the health of residents. I would bring many local and regional connections to the Board.

I enjoy the medical field, reading, children/youth, gardening, culture, art, computers, and writing. My focus is to bring a greater sense of community, safety, positivity, and to stand united. I love the diversity of Dayton's Bluff and I believe this is what makes Saint Paul a great city. I have East Side Pride and I want to share it!

Sub-district A: Todd Gramenz

I was born and raised on the East Side of St. Paul. I graduated from Harding Senior High School, and was very involved in my school and community. I played football, ran track, and was awarded the Highest African American Achievement Award. After high school, I went directly to college at the University of Minnesota Morris, on a full-ride scholarship. I was a recipient of the Page, Temolli, and KOPP scholarships, and was a part of the Multicultural Excellence Program.

At Morris, I became the President of Independence Residence Hall, President of the Management and Economics Club, and President of the Black Student Union. Since graduating from college in 2012, I’ve worked in management. Now that I have the knowledge, time, and leadership skills, I am committed to helping my community. I want to see a stronger Dayton's Bluff that is more civically engaged, focused on employment issues, and advocates for youth in Saint Paul Public Schools. I want to work with the community to build ties that will allow us to move forward on these goals.

Sub-district A: Rob Sebo Lubke

2016 will be my fourth year as an East Side. I moved to Dayton's Bluff because I knew anything about the place, but because my husband came with a neighborhood. All I can say is, "Dayton's Bluff I'm glad we met."

I spent most of my life in my hometown downtown. Born and raised in Winona I have a feel for how streets follow the river and the bluffs, not a grid. I like Saint Paul a lot. I love Dayton's Bluff. We have a beautiful funky home that is getting better every day.

I’m a communications professional...a former journalist who now works for the Lutheran (ELCA) church. I’m also a preservationist...I want to protect the special parts of the bluff we love while promoting jobs and development, including better transit. I want clean, safe, well-lit streets. I want opportunities for kids and to capitalize on our diversity. I want us to build the home we want.

I’m honored to be Vice-President of the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and I’d appreciate your vote for another term as one of your Sub-District A representatives.

Sub-district A: Jeanelle Foster

I am an average person and your neighbor. I have raised two children on the East Side over the past thirteen years. I work with children/families and occupation. I facilitate parent education and diversity groups. I enjoy cooking, learning to bike, and spending time with my granddaughter. I care about my family and community and believe in the good of others. I love Dayton’s Bluff and I believe this is what makes Saint Paul a great city. I have East Side Pride and I want to share it!

Sub-district A: David Gray

I am a five-year resident of Sub-district A. I am Co-owner of the East Side Open Market and owner of two small businesses, Just Jelly and Jam as well as Cabin Attitude, which are both located in Sub-district A. I want to give back to my community. I want to be a part of the solution for change instead of remaining part of the silenced minority.

I see many challenges in the Dayton’s Bluff community. For example, I see the alienation between the community and leadership. I see the struggle for small businesses to be prosperous in Dayton’s Bluff and I want to be part of the solution and re-vitalization of our community and neighborhood.

Sub-district B: Chris Lollie

Originally from Chicago, Illinois, I moved the East Side at an early age. I attended Johnson High School and graduated from the High School of Recording Arts. There, I learned vital technical and communication skills that have been key to my community building work with youth. I work at American Freight as a salesperson; however, I am currently in the process of creating a non-profit to expand my youth work, which focuses on engagement and intervention through music production. It is this knowledge and skill base that I wish to bring to the Community Council.

What I love about Dayton’s Bluff is the mix of cultures and histories. The demographics of this neighborhood have changed and with it the needs and interests of the community. Diversity is nothing without authentic engagement and representation in systems and institution that affect these communities. People of color have been woefully absent from these institutions. I am excited to be a part of changing that.

I will work to create enjoyable and meaningful volunteer opportunities and programs that will build this council to be an organization that represents and advocate for all in our community.

Sub-district B: Shannon Prescott

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Sub-district B: Kristin Madore

A lifelong resident of St. Paul, I live, work, and parent three daughters on the East Side. I live here because I love the diversity of East Side people, the history of East Side architecture, and the hills, bluffs, and hollows of East Side land.

As a teacher at Community of Peace Academy, I am aware of how children and families are affected by the safety and health of our neighborhood. See “Candidates,” continued on page 4.

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Sub-district B: Rainbow Espinosa

I have lived in Dayton’s Bluff with my husband and our kids for about 12 years. We want our neighborhood to have opportunities for structured and unstructured play.

The community is changing a lot and many people live here because they can afford it. Some people want the neighborhood to be more attractive to the east, where many people might feel pushed out.

Sub-district B: Sage Holben

After 53 moves in my life, I came to Minnesota for my job at Metropolitan State University Library and have rented on Fourth Street for 15 of these 17 years. My life has been about learning to draw from my work experiences in domestic violence and crisis intervention as well as from my life experiences, starting from the outskirts of Chicago.

From planting Little Free Libraries to sponsoring youth drumming workshops, art projects, and youth trips to New York City; from lending my voice to someone fighting for his rights in the criminal justice or health system, to serving as Dayton’s Bluff Council Community Board President and Board Director; from confronting drug dealers who stop in my neighborhood, to offering ‘Movies on the Porch,’ to writing for the Dayton’s Bluff District Forum about life in our community.

This is my home and my community. Not to mention the amazing restaurants which curate some of the best meals!

Sub-district C: Osman Egal

I am a lifelong resident of St. Paul who moved to the East Side as a child in 2000. In 2012 I graduated from Johnson High School and in 2015 I was proud to become a homeowner on the East Side. Currently, I am in the second year of a four year Heat and Frost Insulator Apprenticeship program with Local #34 in St. Paul.

I enjoy wildlife, birds, sports, basketball, and fishing. What I like best about living on the East Side is the opportunity to do those things, the convenience of transportation and services, a healthy small business community, and clean living environment. I’m interested in participating in neighborhood discussions that affect me and my property. I want to promote and encourage homeownership on the East Side, especially with young people.

There are many great things about our Dayton’s Bluff community, but I know more can be done. We need to find solutions to make our neighborhood safe for both people and property.

Sub-district C: Rasheed Wade

I am a graduate of South Seattle College with an Associate's Degree in Arts and Science, Highline Community College with an Associate's Degree in Business, and a Bachelor's Degree in Social Science. For 12 years I have provided leadership as a community leader and cultural advisor working to build better networks and opportunities for service providers to connect to my community.

I have strong bilingual communicational skills in English and Somali languages and the ability to translate and interpret, advocate effectively, articulate ideas clearly, write concisely, and make compelling and informative oral presentations.

I have built a strong community liaison with extensive experience in community development and cross-cultural civic engagement. As the current Director of the new Darul-Uloom Islamic Center, I have experience running a non-profit and engaging a growing Somali community in Dayton’s Bluff. I believe the East Side’s richness is demonstrated in the diversity of its residents, the variety of its businesses, and the shared commitment to building a strong vibrant community. I hope to strengthen those ties by championing work that will ensure equitable participation and benefit from economic revitalization happening on the East Side.

Sub-district C: Tabitha Beno DeRango

My degrees are based in education and community organization and development. I am proud to call the Bluff my home. Most recently, my focus has been on creating valued engagement practices throughout the Twin Cities region. With my involvement in the Community Engagement Steering Committee, I co-authored the new Public Engagement Plan with the MET Council. I have skills in community organizing, event planning, creative engagement, and place making. I have an arts based predilection.

I would like to be a part of a board that has strong governance and distinct direction. A board that is observant to community needs and that helps to strengthen the connections in community. A board that practices fiscal transparency and budgets in a way that holds accountability to its greater community.

I feel that the board needs to create healthy, active committees that empower community members to be creative in solutions to the issues in our neighborhoods. I think there needs to be awareness and responsiveness to issues surrounding the various amounts of transformation in our community in regard to economic development, rising housing costs, transportation, and diversity values.

Sub-district D: Quintin Kroger Kidd

On Memorial Day of 2011, Robin and I moved to Dayton’s Bluff. We chose to live in Dayton’s Bluff because of its diversity and neighborhood character. Being able to rehab and preserve our 100+ year-old home was a bonus.

I love the sense of pride East Siders have in our community regardless of whether they’ve lived here their entire lives or just a few years. Walk or drive around the neighborhood and you’ll get a small taste of the diversity of Dayton’s Bluff: from pizza, to coffee, to a burrito, to barbeque, to pho. Step into a neighborhood bar and listen to someone talk about what they love, or don’t love, about the East Side over a cold one.

People in our community are concerned about safety. We need to effectively address these concerns. We need to continue our economic development, business development, and job training efforts. We need to identify and leverage the resources available within our community.

As a former elected official and community volunteer, I have experience addressing the needs of the community. I am a lifelong resident of Dayton’s Bluff and am passionate about our community.

I am concerned that crime and substandard housing prevent people from thriving.

I believe the best way to build community is to know your neighbors. As a representative of my sub-district, I will work to bring neighbors together. I will help build a network of dialogue between neighbors and police, landlords, city officials, and each other. I want Dayton’s Bluff to be a neighborhood where all residents feel safe on the streets and in their homes, where people know their neighbors, and feel proud of where they live.

I am a lifelong resident of St. Paul who moved to the East Side as a child in 2000. In 2012 I graduated from Johnson High School and in 2015 I was proud to become a homeowner on the East Side. Currently, I am in the second year of a four year Heat and Frost Insulator Apprenticeship program with Local #34 in St. Paul.

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I am a lifelong resident of St. Paul. I grew up near the lake and in the neighborhood. Follow- ing my time at Minnesota State University- Moorhead, I moved back to Saint Paul where I have been rooted ever since.

My husband, CJ, and I chose to live in Dayton’s Bluff the summer of 2012 and have steadily made our 1909 house a home by filling it with friends, foster kids, and family.

I am a creative, strategic, and passionate advocate. Currently I serve as the Director of Children, Youth, Family Ministry and Communications, work which continually gives me hope in our future.

I will give my time and strengths of adaptability, ideation, positivity, and strategic thinking to support the DBCC staff, neighbors, and mission. I will provide a constructive voice for criticism through listening, discussion, and claiming action.

My favorite thing about living in Day- ton’s Bluff is the rooted tradition of being a historic, transitional, and diverse community. Not to mention the amazing restaurants which curate some of the best meals!

Most importantly, I want to take time to listen and learn where our weaknesses are. Personally, I would like to discuss our overall connectedness. If someone is not seeking neighbor- boro information, who is giving it to them? Connecting neighbors to each other is critical to the quality of life in Dayton’s Bluff.

I am a Hinono American woman who has lived on the East Side of Saint Paul for the last 20 years. I am a LPN who works for a home care agency: I serve on the Board of the Dayton’s Bluff Seniors Living at Home Block Nurse Program and St. Paul STRONG, a community-led orga- nization committed to pushing for open and representative government. I also vol- unteer with East Side Neighborhood De- velopment Corporation because I believe that in order for the East Side to thrive, we need our community to be informed about development in the neighborhood.

What I like best about living here are the communities. I walk down East 7th, around Indian Mounds Park, on Payne, Arcade, and White Bear Avenues, and I see many family owned establishments, homes, and schools so diverse and full of colorful life and history.

I would like engagement with the community to be more transparent. With trust and knowledge, I believe we can come to- gether to make our community stronger. I would like to empower the community to hold us accountable for making their voic- es heard.

My name is Gibson and I am a fellow neighborhood volunteer, I have experience address- ing some of the...
Sub-district D: Lisa Lemke

I am an early childhood special education teacher for Minneapolis Public Schools. Years ago, when I rode with a group of children on the special education bus through Dayton’s Bluff, I knew one day I wanted to live here. I have resided in the Indian Mounds Park neighborhood for six years, becoming a homeowner a year and a half ago.

I love the community and caring neighbors I’ve come to know in Dayton’s Bluff, as I walk along our streets and greet neighbors, getting to know them and their canine family members! I enjoy our beautiful park and overlooks, and the small-town feel we have in our beloved St. Paul.

I would like to encourage the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood to continue to work toward making our streets safer and our bluff beautiful.

Sub-district D: Barry White

I’ve lived in the Mounds Park neighborhood of Dayton’s Bluff for 17 years. I am a Video Maker, working in video production by writing, shooting, and editing video for small businesses and nonprofits. I am a good listener and I am patient. My skills as a visual communicator may be of use to the organization. I like the momentum we have gained lately -- with new restaurants, grocery stores, and breweries, etc. I’d like to change greater St. Paul’s perception that the East Side “sucks.”

Urban Oasis Awarded USDA Local Food Promotion Program Grant

Urban Oasis receives funding for its innovative approach to creating a more equitable local food system.

Urban Oasis is the recipient of a Local Food Promotion Program grant from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). The grant will support the work Urban Oasis is doing to build new local food markets through expanding its catering and value-added food products line.

“We prioritize purchasing ingredients at a fair price from local, underserved farmers, who use sustainable growing methods,” says Tracy Sides, founder and executive director of Urban Oasis. “We believe in building economic opportunities for neighbors as well as farmers who live, grow, or sell produce in Saint Paul. We work closely with Urban Oasis, but also other food businesses in the shared commercial kitchen operated in partnership with Latino Economic Development Center.”

Sub-district D: Holly Windignstad

I moved to Dayton’s Bluff in 2006 and immediately felt at home in the community. My kids and I started attending story time at the library, toddler playtime at Dayton’s Bluff Recreation Center, and ECFE classes. I am a member of First Lutheran Church. I served on the Indian Mounds Playground Advisory Committee and Dayton’s Bluff ECFE Advisory Committee. Seven years ago, I developed Meszy Fingers and Toes art class for toddlers, because the Recreation Center was not offering much-needed programming.

I would like to see our neighborhood become a destination spot for special businesses and events. We can do this by continuing the beautification of 7th Street and expanding to radial streets. Improvements to commercial properties need to continue so businesses can open and thrive in our commercial district. Let’s show off the dynamic energy in our district by offering vibrant community events.

Creating a safe environment in which we can work, live, and play is an ongoing challenge. Bringing our community together with mutual respect for each other, and better working and living conditions will move us closer to an alive and vibrant community. Additionally, improvements in transportation and building development are greatly needed; we need to ensure they are in line with the needs of a forward thinking community and historic character of the East Side.

Urban Oasis is a sustainable food center in Saint Paul that strives to create a healthy, resilient, and prosperous community by strengthening the local food system and increasing access and enjoyment of sustainably-grown, affordable, whole food. Learn more at UrbanOasisMN.org.
Jacqueline LaSan — Always Trying to Make a Difference
Mark Gallagher, Associate Editor

A lot of us don’t have much of an idea what people need when they lack a place to live. Jacqueline LaSan is trying to send a little love to the people who find themselves in that situation.

One day, about a year ago, the Spirit just hit me,” LaSan says. “And He says to me, ‘Get started. You have to start somewhere,’ and that’s when I decided to name it The Carol and Kahlin Foundation.”

Carol and Kahlin are names that are dear to LaSan. Her mother’s name was Carol and Kahlin was her daughter’s uncle. Both passed away within 25 days of each other near the end of 2013.

“I think it was one of the saddest years of my life,” she quietly says. “It was the holidays. I had already told my mom that she was going to help me build a shelter — because once I graduate, I’m getting a shelter. So we were talking about it all the time — that was my goal.”

Jacqueline LaSan attends Century College in White Bear Lake and will graduate in May 2016 with a degree in Human Services. “I have been here since 2012,” she says. “But I took a semester or two off when my mom and brother-in-law passed. I pushed my way through the end of the semester. I just pushed myself because I just wasn’t emotionally and mentally there.”

Her dream is to own and run a shelter, and she is taking positive steps to realize that dream. When asked what inspired her to put the idea of a shelter in her head, LaSan proudly says, “One morning the Spirit touched me, and I had a few dollars in my pocket. I took it out and went to Walmart, Target, and some thrift stores to buy a printer and a desk. I put them in my basement and turned the basement into an office — then just got started.”

LaSan went through The Nonprofit Council on University Avenue to get her foundation started. “They guide you through all the steps it takes to start a nonprofit,” she says. “You pay a $150.00 fee and they tell you what you need and what licenses you need to apply for. Then you tell the Nonprofit Council what your foundation is about, what your plans are, and then you have to abide by those plans.”

LaSan and her family ensemble hygiene kits to donate to women’s shelters that may need them. The hygiene kits contain very basic but essential items: toothpaste, toothbrush, soap, washcloth, hand sanitizer, and deodorant.

“Those are the basics that you need to get from day to day,” she says. “So if you’re looking for a job or looking for an apartment, at least you are able to maintain your hygiene because once a person is homeless, maintaining his or her hygiene becomes a hard thing to do.”

“If I were to get an office, I would like to start off on the East Side and hope to expand to other nearby areas where I can help,” LaSan says. “I’m new at this and I’m learning as I go. I just want to take my time and learn everything I need to learn.

“I have children, I have a family, and I have a house that needs to be taken care of and maintained,” she says humbly. “But I also want to teach my children, so one day I can give the business to them, and help them understand to always help people — because you never know when you might need help.

“This is an exciting time for me,” LaSan says. “I look forward to helping out the community. I want to help out if I can because I was once in need of help. My mom was scared to leave us kids alone.

“To my knowledge, I don’t think there is a safe haven on the East Side; there’s a community center and it does a good job of helping people out — but I think the East Side could use a little more.”

Jacqueline LaSan can be reached by phone: 651-399-1013. A Web site has been developed for the foundation, and can accept donations. caroland-kahlinfoundation.org

Mark Gallagher is a professional writer and editor. He can be reached at refineEditorial@gmail.com.

Dayton’s Bluff District Forum
December 2015

Dayton’s Bluff Seniors now serving seniors in Payne-Phalen District

The Living at Home Network announces the expansion of Dayton’s Bluff Seniors Living at Home Network to a new site. Senior services are provided at low cost or no cost to Payne-Phalen residents.

Dayton’s Bluff Seniors has been operating in the east side neighborhood since 2008 and offers a wide variety of services for seniors who wish to remain independent and in their homes. Diane Raaff, Executive Director of the Living at Home Network said “Dayton’s Bluff Seniors provides an important link to services and resources for seniors in the community, and we are pleased they are ready to share these with their Payne-Phalen neighbors.”

DBS Executive Director, Janet Golden and Gallagher commented “we are ready and golden to serve the seniors in Payne-Phalen with our full range of programs and resources. It’s a great opportunity to reach seniors where they live.”

DBS services include rides to doctor appointments, the grocery store, post office, the beauty salon, and other destinations. The Elder Café held every month offers entertainment and a nutritious lunch to guests, and our Wellness Clinics at two senior residences round out our offerings. Most services are provided at low cost or based on a sliding scale.

Senior residents who were previously served by Payne-Phalen Elders are encouraged to contact Dayton’s Bluff Seniors at (651) 237-7633 or (651) 400-1650 should they wish to enroll in our programs. More information on Dayton’s Bluff Seniors can be found online at www.daytons-bluffseniors.org.

Project Recovery now accepting clothing donations
People Incorporated’s Project Recovery, at 317 York Avenue, is now accepting clothing donations. Cleaning out your closet this winter? Any clothing donations of lightly worn items are welcome in the homeless services division. They will go to patrons of the drop-in center and the Housing First program, which serves the underprivileged homeless community in the East Metro, and also provides outreach in Hennepin and Ramsey Counties. Call 651-225-8963 for more information.

Old St. Paul Group discusses history of Dayton’s Bluff
Greg Cosimini
Forum Staff

Dayton’s Bluff resident and local historian, Steve Trimble, presented a talk about the history of Dayton’s Bluff at the Old St. Paul Facebook group event on November 21, at the Historic Mounds Theatre. Over 70 people attended his talk to learn about one of the oldest neighborhoods in St. Paul.

Pictured below, Steve (right) gets an assist from Karin DuPaul who briefly spoke about the Hamm Brewery, Hamm family, and the many mansions they built in the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood.
Join us to celebrate our new Student Center
690 East Seventh Street, Saint Paul

Grand Opening Program
Friday, Jan. 22, 2016
4:30 p.m.

This wonderful new addition to our Saint Paul campus is possible because of your collaboration and support. We appreciate the involvement of our neighbors and community leaders and thank you for your patience during construction. We are pleased that the Student Center contributes to our shared vision for a revitalized East Seventh Street!

Please contact the Institute for Community Engagement and Scholarship at 651-793-1285 for more information or visit metrostate.edu.
Two grumpy pumpkins did not appreciate the sudden switch to winter that occurred in Dayton's Bluff on November 26. Thanksgiving Day.

Minnesota Public Safety
Commissioner Mona Dohman named Metropolitan State Alumnus of the Year

Metropolitan State University is honored to recognize Minnesota Pub-
lic Safety Commissioner Mona Dohman as the 2015 Alumnus of the Year. Dohman was recognized at the Metropolitan State University Foun-
dation Scholarship Celebration awards ceremony on Thursday, No-

dember 18, at the annual meeting on Decem-
ber 21. You can make a difference just by
marking a ballot!

Mounds Park United Methodist Church
1049 Euclid Street (corner of Earl and Euclid); 651-774-8736
Mounds Park United Methodist on Facebook

Mounds Park United Methodist Church is a community based, multi-
cultural congregation located at 1049 Euclid Street at the corner of Earl and Euclid. We strive to build on the positive assets of Dayton’s Bluff; working together as neighbors while improving our community.

Everyone is invited to the following community events:

Wednesday, December 16, starting at Noon – Community Friendship Gathering with hot lunch. We begin with a hot lunch of Stuffed Pork Chops, mashed potatoes and gravy, pear salad, rolls, and dessert, followed by music from the Mounds Park UMC Women’s Chorus. All are welcome; the focus of this event is on persons age 55 and over. A donation of $8.00 is suggested.

The Children’s Christmas Pageant entitled “O Jesse Tree, O Jesse Tree; a Living Advent Calendar” will be presented on December 16, starting at Noon – Community Friendship Fellowship Hall with special treats for the kids.

Community Christmas Eve Candle Light Services at 4:00 p.m. and 11:00 p.m. The church will be festively decorated for the season, special Christmas music will be offered, candlelight and carols, and a meditation entitled: “Rejoice: God Comes To Us!” All are invited!

Metropolitan State names new trustee to Foundation Board

Metropolitan State University has named a new member to the Metro-
politan State Foundation Board of Trustees.

Greg Lais, founder and executive director of Wilderness Inquiry, will serve a three-year appointment.

Lais founded Wilderness Inquiry in 1978. Wilderness Inquiry is a non-
profit outdoor recreation and educa-
tion organization that annually serves more than 25,000 people of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities. Prior to founding Wilderness Inquiry, Lais served as administrator at Camp New Hope for Developmentally Disabled Citizens. Since 1993, he has also served as an adjunct faculty in the Recreation, Park and Leisure Studies program School of Kinesiology at the University of Minnesota.

Lais holds a bachelor’s degree in Psychology from St. John’s University in Collegeville, Minn. where he graduated with cum laude, and an MBA from the University of Minnesota Carlson School of Management. “I’ve always been interested in edu-
cation, especially helping non-tradi-
tional learners get in to and graduate from college,” Lais says. “I’ve always considered Metropolitan State Univer-
sity to be a leader in this regard, and I hope to help build it so more people can get access to quality education.”

Metropolitan State University, a member of the Minnesota State Col-
leges and Universities System, is America’s premier university for life-
long learning, providing unsurpassed, competitive academic and profession-
alan degree programs at the bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral levels while maintaining affordability.

The mission of the Metropolitan State University Foundation is to gen-
erate maximum public awareness, as well as governmental and private sup-
port, for Metropolitan State University, and to assist the university in its development as a comprehensive, ur-
ban university in the Twin Cities met-
ropolitan area for changing and diverse student needs.

December 2015
Dayton’s Bluff District Forum Page 8
Are you interested in fostering or adopting a rescue dog?

Kari Soeffker  
Special to the Forum

Are you interested in fostering or adopting a rescue dog? I live in Dayton’s Bluff and as a dog lover myself, I was curious about what fostering entailed for a long time. Many questions came to mind; what if the dog I chose to foster didn’t get adopted right away and I’d have him for months and months? What if I developed an emotional attachment to the dog and had to endure the agony of giving her up? I thought about the supplies that I didn’t have – the food, treats, leashes, collars, kennels, toys, bowls, and everything else needed. Would I have to purchase all of this myself? I decided to start my research by looking up different foster and rescue organizations and reading anything I could to educate myself on what I was in for.

I learned that in the Twin Cities, and Minnesota in general, we are blessed with many great rescues. We have a strong network of dedicated people helping this cause and we have a good record of spaying and neutering our dogs. Unfortunately, this isn’t the case in many southern states and they are overwhelmed with an abundance of stray dogs.

Fox 9 News has a great video you can watch called “Puppy Pipeline” which aired this summer and explains how and why all these dogs are coming to the Twin Cities to get adopted. With my research complete and my questions answered, I decided I was going to be a part of this.

I have now fostered 10 dogs (an average of one dog every six weeks since February). I am amazed to see how fast they are adopted once they get their freedom ride to Minnesota. The average I’ve had a foster dog at my home is 10-14 days before they go home to their forever family. There are many “foster failures” happenings every week, meaning that a foster decides to adopt the dog they are fostering themselves as they find the dog to be such a perfect fit for their family. Fortunately, I haven’t fallen into this category...yet.

The true reward for me is seeing the transformation from sad faces and crowded kennel pictures from down south, turned into big smiles as dogs go home with their new forever families. The satisfaction I get far outweighs my attachment to them.

If you have any interest in applying to be a foster or learning about the rescues and seeing the available dogs, here are some non-profit rescues I’ve worked with: Secondhand Hounds in Eden Prairie. Many dogs in Missouri, Kentucky, and Tennessee spend months in a shelter just to “run out of time” simply due to lack of space.

Rescue work with “Mobile Mutts” and other individual volunteers to drive several different legs of their journey to Minnesota. Midwest Animal Rescue (MARS) in Brooklyn Park provides a free question and answer fostering class every Saturday from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

At Coco’s Heart in Hudson, Wisconsin, you can see the dogs that are in need of fosters listed on their Facebook page. They host a new foster orientation on the second Friday of every month from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at their office. During the orientation, you will learn more about their mission and the important role you play as a foster family.

Once in the care of the rescues, the dogs are vaccinated, microchipped, and spayed or neutered. The rescues provide everything you need to foster free of charge including food, treats, collars, leashes, and kennels/crates.

Good luck on your fostering/rescuing journey and feel free to call the rescues listed, other rescues in the Twin Cities, or myself if you have any questions. Kari Soeffker can be reached at 651-774-3005.

What is it?

Kari DuPaul  
Forum Staff

I was recently asked “what is that new building being built on East 7th Street?” The new apartment building named “The Cambric” at 720 East 7th Street will open during the summer of 2016. The Cambric is a senior (55+) affordable living building. It will have 113 units of senior rental housing and it is right next door to the new Mississippi Market.

The Cambric will offer open floor plans, nine-foot ceilings, washer/dryer, patios, balconies, and walk-in closets. Shared amenities available at The Cambric include community and fitness rooms, on-site salon, outdoor patio and plaza, common area fireplaces, and underground parking.

The Cambric is owned and operated by Dominium. Founded in 1972, Dominium is a Minneapolis-based owner, developer, and manager of apartment communities nationwide. With more than 21,000 owned and/or managed units at 190-plus sites across the country, Dominium is known for creative solutions to unique and challenging development projects, and management expertise. For more information visit www.dominiumapartments.com.

Kari DuPaul

Karin DuPaul, located at 720 East 7th Street, will be Dayton’s Bluff’s newest 55+ senior living option.
Saint Paul East Side Optimist Club's first year
Ann Polachek
President

The Saint Paul East Side Optimist Club is celebrating its first year anniversary following our charter with the Optimist International on November 13, 2014. The Optimists International is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit Organization that is 96 years old and whose mission is "Bringing Out the Best in Kids."

Each club is autonomous, with its members serving the youth in their community in any way they see fit – we see the need and react to it.

Before the club was formed, member Dave Anderson (who has written three books on baseball) and I, brought wiffle ball to the Saint Paul Police Department's 2014 "Safe Summer Nights" at the city's various parks and playgrounds. We made two observations. First, that most boys and girls didn't know how to swing a bat or use a glove. Secondly, that they really enjoyed playing ball and did not want to quit when the event ended. With these observations and the fact that there is a national decline in baseball in the inner cities, it became the impetus to form the club and promote sandlot baseball.

Subsequently, on May 2, in partnership with the Arlington Hills Community Center we held a "kick off" program featuring a baseball clinic held by Mr. Steve Winfield of the legendary baseball family. This event included the serving of baseball food that brought families together, a mini parade, a concert by the 200+ Farnsworth School Band, and concluded with a showing of the movie *Sandlot*. Following this, we were invited to the Duluth-Case Playground with its many ball fields, to start the program which was held twice-a-week. Many of the youth participating were of the Karen ethnic group.

On August 17, 2015, we had a formal dedication ceremony on field #5, with an unveiling of the signage by Councilman Dan Bostrom and Program Director Kong Chang, that reads: "Optimist Field Home of Sandlot Baseball - Tues and Wed 5:30-7:00." This was followed by a sandlot baseball game with 40 girls and boys taking their turn at bat and in the field. A professional umpire volunteered his time. Baseball food was served following the game. The event was co-sponsored by the Parks and Recreation Department and the Duluth-Case Booster Club.

Our first season of sandlot baseball ended at the Wilder Playground as part of the Payne Avenue Harvest Festival.

We will continue with sandlot baseball as we plan a new program that is part of the Minnesota Twins RBI League, RBI meaning Reviving Baseball In the Inner Cities. The program would consist of two teams of both boys and girls. One team is for kids 12 and under and the other for 10 and under.

Next, we will be working with high school students to compete in the Optimists’ Essay Contest.

Also, along the way we donated a portable electric sewing machine to the Arlington Hills Community Center for the sewing classes in their teen center and recently concluded a 5-weekend cribbage course as well.

So, that is a recap of our first year that we all are proud of. We now look forward to the coming year.

If anyone is interested in joining our club, please contact me at: Polly's Coffee Cove, Attn: Ann Polachek, 1382 Payne Ave., St. Paul MN 55130; 651-771-5531.

Rep. Sheldon Johnson and Councilmember Jane Prince wish you:
JOYFUL HOLIDAYS AND A HAPPY NEW YEAR

PEACE, HEALTH AND FRIENDSHIP
The Story of Maria Bates Dayton

Steve Trimble
Forum Historian

Readers may know that Maria Street and Bates Street were so named in 1854 in honor of the wife of Lyman Dayton. We have written about Lyman several times and there is little need to tell his story again. That’s why this history article will tell some of the story of Maria Bates Dayton.

Maria was born in 1811 in Rhode Island and raised in Providence by her aunt and uncle from the age of six when her mother died. Hers was a comfortable early life in a home with servants. It is not currently known how she met her husband-to-be, but it is on record that the eighteen year old married Lyman Dayton on January 2, 1831. Their only child, known as Lyman C., was born around 1834.

Lyman Sr. was a financially successful merchant who “in consequence of ill-health, he retired from active labor” and headed for Minnesota in 1849. The Dayton family arrived at St. Paul on the steamboat Dr. Franklin, along with William LeDuc. They both took up lodging at the Central House, the principal hotel in town. LeDuc later wrote “the next day while walking in front of the hotel, Mrs. Dayton called from an open window excitedly to me, ‘Come and help me quick. Mr. Baker has the cholera!’ Mrs. Dayton was frightened and said she had given him all the brandy she had and he must have some more. I got more brandy and she insisted on his taking it, whilst he was drunk. He recovered next day.”

While in Minnesota, their first appearance in the census was in 1850. The three were living in the downtown area, as was almost everyone. They had no live-in servants. Lyman was forty, Maria a year younger and son Lyman C. was nineteen. By 1854 they built a very large frame house in today’s Dayton’s Bluff. According to the 1860 census, six others – most likely employees – including Charles St. Clair, a clerk from England, Hannah and Betsy Johnston, listed as Swedish servants, Balt Kepton and Patrick McMahon, Irish laborers.

Maria was a very strong Baptist and it is said that she was responsible for having had lumber brought up from the St. Croix River to build the first church for her congregation in downtown St. Paul. When completed, it was carpeted; she placed a Bible on the altar and deeded it over to the church.

Lyman died in 1865 and Maria had him buried on their property and probably remained there for a time. Then, in what may have been a surprising move, Maria married again on March 21, 1873. While remarriage was fairly common at the time, she became the bride of Michael Nell who had been a family employee. Then there is the fact that he was 33 years younger than her.

The 1880 census finds 68 year old Maria B. Nell in a house in Elk River on the east side of the river opposite Dayton, Minnesota. With her 35 year old husband Michael, who is listed as a farmer, they shared a structure with five others – probably employees – whose ages ranged from 17 to 24. Michael died a year later on August 20, 1881.

In the 1890s, the Pioneer Press reported that Maria had died. They later received a letter from her saying they were in error. Finally, on December 27, 1896, the St. Paul Globe ended the speculation with the headline “Death of Mrs. Nell. Lyman Dayton’s wife, the pioneer resident, dies poor.” She was found in her home near present-day Elk River. “Mrs. Dayton, while once very wealthy, died in straitened circumstances,” the writer said, “a large part of her fortune having been taken by the depreciation in real estate values…coupled with a great deal of expensive litigation with her son.”

The son, Lyman C. Dayton, had died a year earlier. “For many years he was at litigation continuously with his mother over the property left by the father and husband.” Much of the trouble was linked to the second marriage of Maria, “which created considerable excitement at the time.” One source suggested he was her gardener, but the Globe said that Nell was “was formerly the family coachman,” who left St. Paul for the Civil War and married the widow several years after his return. They moved to a farm across the river from Dayton, Minnesota. The newspaper ended with the following observation: “Mrs. Nell was a peculiar woman who seemed to have the faculty for getting into unfortunate quarrels with people. She lost most of her property through litigation, and was a constant figure in the courts. She lived to a ripe old age, being in the neighborhood of ninety.”

An old history book’s comments after the death of Maria might serve as her epitaph: “Her barque, (which is a sailing vessel) ‘lighted by the love and charity she has given others here on earth, will guide her safely to the dim unknown.”

Maria Bates Dayton.
Have Forum, will travel

Several readers sent us pictures of themselves reading our newspaper on their travels. If you’d like to do the same, please email photos to editor@daytonsbuff.org.

Rich DuPaul reading the Dayton’s Bluff District Forum at Wall Drug on his way back from the Sturgis Motorcycle Rally in Sturgis, South Dakota. After all that reading in the sun, we hope he drank lots of the “free iced water” the roadside signs promise.

At left: Tom Beer took his copy of the Forum all the way to Sumvitg, Switzerland. That’s really Sumvitg!

Grant Offermann just couldn’t tear himself away from the local news. Not even a visit to the OK Corral Famous Gunfight Site while on vacation in Tombstone, Arizona, could distract this devoted reader.

Friends of the Forum

Dear Reader,

The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum has been a volunteer-run newspaper since the 1970s, and has always operated on a minimal budget.

For the past two years we have been soliciting donations through our Friends of the Forum program. Thanks to the donations of readers like you, we have been able to keep the paper up and running.

If you value this community source of information, please consider filling out the form at right. Any amount is appreciated; you may also make memorial donations, or include the Forum in your legacy planning.

If you have been our Friend in the past, please renew your membership with a donation in 2015.

Our goal for the year is $2,000; as of this printing we have raised $1,978.79. Won’t you help us?

Sincerely,

The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum

Board: Greg Cosimini, Karin DuPaul, Jennifer Herman, Sage Holben, Carla Riehle, Steve Trimble
Editor: Jennifer Gascoigne          Associate Editor: Mark Gallagher  Assistant Editor: Apryl Cave

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

$100    $50    $25    Another amount _____

Or give online: razoo.com/Hopewell-Communications-Incorporated.

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Make checks out to Dayton’s Bluff District Forum and mail to 804 Margaret Street, St. Paul, MN 55106.

For more information, contact 651-776-0550 or editor@daytonsbuff.org.

Thank you for your support!

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