Spring brings Margaret Park transformation

Jennifer Herman
Forum staff

Crews will break ground this spring for some much needed improvements at Margaret Park! In 2013 the Margaret Rec Center was demolished and the City of St Paul designated $500,000 in the Capital Improvements Budget for improvements at the park. Last summer Stewards Of Margaret Park (STOMP) worked with city staff to survey park users to learn what they liked about the park and where improvements were needed. City staffers used the data to create some design plans which have been refined during a series of community meetings over the winter.

The biggest need at Margaret is to replace the bathroom that was lost when the rec center was removed. The budget will allow for a single stall restroom to be constructed near the playground. Outside the restroom there will be a drinking fountain with a water bottle filler and bulletin boards for posting community and park information. Bike racks will also be installed, making Margaret an easy stopping point for bikers using the Margaret bike route. The old parking lot will be removed and replaced with picnic tables, grills, rock gardens, pathways, shade trees, and fruit trees. The steps will be improved, the remainder of the old building will be removed, and the hill will be graded for even better sledding conditions. The light pole at the bottom of the hill will be removed and the field will be smoothed out and reseeded. Park benches and a Roger Tetu memorial butterfly garden will be installed at the corner of Margaret and Earl Street, while a new sign will grace the corner of Beech and Earl.

Overwhelmingly, kids and teens said they missed playing basketball in the rec center gym, so if the budget stretches far enough, a half-court basketball court will be constructed in the northeast corner of the field area. Residents have had tremendous input into the upcoming improvements and there is great anticipation for the spring and summer construction. To see more pictures of the plans and get construction updates, please visit www.facebook.com/stompmn/.

Black Lives Matter St. Paul and Dayton’s Bluff Community Council get community input on next police chief

Nicole Presley
Communications Manager
Dayton’s Bluff Community Council

St. Paul, like countless other American cities, faces a large challenge to change the culture of policing in order to build positive relationships with Black communities and communities of color. Both a reckoning and an affirmation, Black Lives Matter has made police brutality a national issue with local implications.

The stories about police brutality or misconduct are not new to some, but with the aid of daring activists and new technology like camera phones, it has become clear in all instances that the police war on Black lives continues today.

On President’s Day, activists from Black Lives Matter St. Paul and the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council held a public meeting to discuss the selection committee process and their vision for a police chief and police force that works for their community. With over 20 residents in attendance, the group developed a lengthy list of improvements and reforms they would like to see a new police chief support. Attendees passionately called for mandatory body cameras, the demilitarization of the police, and a comprehensive plan to hire people of color who live in the community. Clear in all these recommendations was the desire for trust, safety, and accountability – qualities some believe are lacking in the current relationships with the department.

See “Police Chief,” continued on page 4.

Dayton’s Bluff Community Council
804 Margaret Street
St. Paul, MN 55106

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New community center eyed on East 5th Street

Carla Riehle
Forum Staff

Osman Egal is seeking the key to the community.

Elected in December as a new member of the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council’s Board of Directors, Egal is also the director of the Darul Uloom Islamic Center, which in June 2014 purchased the former St. John's Catholic Church on East 5th Street. Of the three buildings on the Center's campus, the mosque is used for prayer services by around 300 members of the congregation and the residence is used as a temporary landing place for new arrivals. The school, however, is not usable until badly needed repairs are made. The “key” is Egal’s metaphor for finding a means of turning the school into a multi-use facility for the community. He says that more than being the director of the Islamic Center, he is a member of the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood, and can see that our youth in particular are underserved. Since the recession, the City of St. Paul has closed or turned over to other organizations 17 of its recreation centers and Egal believes that he can help to fill the vacuum. The school has a large gym that he wants to open up to neighborhood youth and which also houses a large number of individual spaces that could be used for small businesses or office space. A survey taken at an August festival on East 7th Street revealed that a coffee shop was the most popular choice for a new enterprise in the center.

St. Paul City Council member Jane Prince has made the community center project a top priority in view of the loss of the nearby Margaret Recreation Center several years ago. Other community members view the possibility as a powerful force for neighborhood unity and Prince sees great potential in bringing the community together to work with Darul Uloom on its plans to redevelop the school into much needed recreational and gathering space. Osman Egal says that he has been encouraged by the reception he received door-knocking in the neighborhood as he sought support for his community council candidacy. He believes that one of his most important tasks is to reach out with his congregation to their neighbors and he invites anyone who would like to tour the center or serve a prayer service to contact him at talyan2001@yahoo.com.
Community Calendar

Thursday, March 3
Time: 1:00 p.m.

Urban Education Forum
Metropolitan State University’s Institute for Urban Education will present its first free forum and reception on Thursday, March 3, Educating a Diverse Society through the Lens of Social Justice with guest, Sonia Nieto. Sonia Nieto is a professor Emerita of Language, Literacy, and Culture at the College of Education, University of Massachusetts Amherst. Nieto is one of the leading authors and teachers in the field of multiculturalism. For session times and details, call 651-793-1300.

Saturday, March 5
Time: 10:30 a.m.

Dayton’s Bluff Take A Hike
Learn a little history of the East Side while hiking through Dayton’s Bluff.

The hike starts at Indian Mounds Park at Earl Street and Mounds Boulevard and is about one and a half to two hours long. Hikers will have their choice of ending in Swede Hollow Park or East Side Heritage Park.

For more information email karin@swedehollow.org or call 651-776-0550.

Sunday, March 6
Time: 1:00 p.m.

Film Screening & Panel Discussion at Historic Fort Snelling
Join the Minnesota Historical Society for a very special event marking the 150th anniversary of the Supreme Court’s infamous Dred Scott Decision and the struggle for citizenship. The program will include a film screening of the documentary  “14: Dred Scott, Wong Kim Ark, & Vanessa Lopez,” along with a panel discussion. Historic Fort Snelling is located at 200 Tower Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55111. For more information, visit mhs.org/event/1128, or call 612-726-1171.

March 8-10
Time: 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

FREE tax help
Metropolitan State’s Accounting Dept. and the Institute for Community Engagement and Scholarship sponsor free tax help sessions for students, working families who earned less than $54,000 in 2015, people with disabilities, and senior citizens. The tax sessions are held at the Library and Learning Center at 645 East Seventh Street, Saint Paul. No appointment is needed and walk-ins are welcome.

For more information on what to bring with you or if you need an interpreter, contact the Institute for Community Engagement and Scholarship at 651-699-4707.

Wednesday, March 9
Time: 6:30 p.m.

Friends of Swede Hollow
Watch over, restore, and celebrate the history of Swede Hollow Park. Come join the Swede Hollow community at their monthly meeting. Email karin@swedehollow.org or call 651-776-0550 for more information and the meeting’s location.

Thursday, March 10
Time: 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m.

Elder Cafe: PolkaSol
Back by popular demand, PolkaSol! Will play lots of polkas, waltzes and old time songs. A very interactive group, PolkaSol encourages listeners to join in the fun. Elder Cafe is a partnership between Dayton’s Bluff Seniors and First Lutheran Church. The event is being held at 463 Maria Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55106. For more information call 651-237-7633 or visit dayton bluff seniors.org.

Thursday, March 10
Time: 7:00 p.m.

Film Screening and Discussion at the East Side Freedom Library
The East Side Freedom Library will host a screening and discussion of Eve’s Bayou, as part of Metro State’s BIG READ program. Visit eastsidefreedomlibrary.org for details on upcoming events as they become available.

Saturday, March 12
Time: 8:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

Community Forum on Immigration
Century College East Campus is holding a Community Forum for more information on DACA & DAPA/MN Dream Act and updates regarding immigration. For details or to register, text your name to phone number 612-516-0572.

March events and shows at the Mounds Theatre
Saturday, March 12: BWW Wrestling Presents: Cloverleaf Chaos is selling out quickly. The theatre has run out of chairs in the past few months. Bell is at 7:30 p.m., doors open at 6:45 p.m.

Saturday, March 19: Burlesque returns to the Mounds with Clash of the Cult Classics: Kabric v. Carpenter. This themed show pays homage to the works of these two famous directors against each other in a burlesque battle. On Friday, March 18, there are plans to screen a film by one of the directors, movie and details are to be determined. Check out mounds theatre.org for details as they become available.

Visit our website at mounds theatre.org for other events not listed here and to purchase tickets. The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 HUDSON St., St. Paul, MN 55105; 651-772-2253; historic-mounds-theatre@gmail.com.

Saturday, March 12
Time: 12:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m.

The BIG READ Book Discussion & Performance by the Black Storytellers Alliance
Join the Dayton’s Bluff Library for a book discussion on Their Eyes Were Watching God, based on the book by Zora Neale Hurston. The library is providing free copies of the book to anyone interested in attending.

The library will also be hosting a performance by the Black Storytellers Alliance for children. Children can expect an imaginative and dramatic performance based on Their Eyes Were Watching God.

Both events are sponsored by the BIG READ, a series of cultural events and discussions on issues of race, class, and gender. For specific times and more information about these and other events check spl.org or call 651-795-1699. The Dayton’s Bluff Library shares its home with Metropolitan State University at 645 E 7th Street.

Wednesday, March 16
Time: 9:30 a.m. & 6:30 p.m.

Police Community Meetings
The Eastern District Police will host their monthly meetings for community members at the Eastern District Police Office at 722 Payne Avenue, on the corner of Payne and Minnehaha Avenues. The next meetings are at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Meetings are intended as a time to learn about, discuss, and address concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

The Saint Paul Police Eastern District is committed to maintaining and growing the quality of life for all residents. Bring your neighbors – it is a great time to talk about all neighborhood related issues.

Saturday, March 20
Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Book Club Discussion
Come discuss the book that you just finished and hear what other people are reading. No need to stress out about whether you’ll like the book club book – you pick your own book. Coffee, and a sweet treat provided by A Greener Read Bookstore. A Greener Read Bookstore is located at 506 Kenny Rd, Ste 150, Saint Paul, MN 55130.

Saturday, March 26
Time: 2:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Community Easter Egg Hunt
Starting at 2:00 p.m. at the Indian Mounds Regional Park South Pavilion. There will be treats and games, and plenty of Easter Eggs hidden across the park. This event is hosted by Mounds Park United Methodist Church; children of all ages and their parents are welcome to participate.

Activities at the Dayton’s Bluff Rec Center
The following programs are FREE (unless otherwise noted) and held at the Dayton’s Bluff Rec Center, 800 Conway Street, St. Paul.

EduCheck After School Program: Mon.-Tuesday: 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.; and Friday: 3:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Tot Time: Monday and Wednesday: 10:00 a.m. to noon.

Judo: Monday, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Self Defense: Wednesday, 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Family Food Box distribution takes place every third Thursday of the month from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Call (651) 793-3885 for more information and to register.

Neighborhood Announcements

Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship Now Accepting Applications
The Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship is accepting applications from now until June 1. Eligible students must be a racial minority and a union member, or be the child, grandchild, or spouse of a union member. Scholarships are awarded to both full-time and part-time students who will be attending a Minnesota Technical College, or state university in the fall of 2016. Scholarship amounts are $1,200 for full-time students and $500 for part-time students.

Applications and additional information about the scholarship are available online at nelliestone.org or by calling 651-738-1404 or toll free 866-738-5238.

Attention Dayton’s Bluff Gardeners!
Garden plots are now available at the new Skidmore Park Community Garden! Plots come in two sizes: 40 and 64 square feet for a fee of $25/year. Applications and rules are available online at http://bit.ly/SKQDOR17 (Facebook) or at the District 4 Community Council office. Applications are due by April 8.

One application per household. Plots are assigned in the order applications are received. To receive a garden plot assignment, you must attend orientation on April 11 at 6:00 p.m., at the Skidmore Park Community Garden, 1058 E. 4th Street. Questions? Call 651-772-2075 or email johnbarbie@hotmail.com or jennifer.herman@gmail.com.
Justice to every home and business in the Dayton’s Bluff District, March 2016

Almost Famous

For a few days in late January and early February, the usual winter tranquility of the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary was interrupted by an army of hopeful treasure hunters.


Unfortunately, all was for naught. The medallion was found on February 2, more than 12 miles away near Bald Eagle Lake in White Bear Lake. No word yet on if White Bear Lake will be hiding its Manitou Days medallion in Dayton’s Bluff.

Getting There From Here

Back in the days before all the little farms in the St. Paul area became housing developments, I knew a jovial old farmer named Ted. With his field bordering a busy road, drivers would sometimes spot him and stop to ask for directions, whereupon Ted would reply, “I can’t get lost from here.” Then he’d chuckle and smile and provide the directions they sought.

Some of the drivers who had shaken their heads as they drove away.

Now that I’m an old lady (this “Andy” is female) I’m reminded of Ted’s jest. Elders who have neither a car nor family and who can’t afford taxi cabs really “can’t get there from here.” Get where? Where they need to go? There are city buses, of course, but a very elderly person would have to be a former gymnast to board a bus and deal with the fuzzy fare machine without having to grab the driver’s leg for balance. And few could dangle for long from an overhead strap on a jam-packed inner-city bus. At the first big lurch, they’d need to put two hands on the strap, which could propel a bag of groceries into someone’s lap.

And that’s in nice weather, when St. Paul prides itself on being the nation’s “most livable city.” In the wintertime, when neither the city nor the area transit commission does any bus-stop maintenance whatsoever, getting on and off may be downright dangerous or impossible. In “real” Minnesota winters, with snowfall many times heavier than the current winter’s accumulation, the bus stops become great mounds of ice. I slipped off of one a couple of years ago and rolled under the bus. Recalling a cousin whose knee was crushed when she slid under a Minneapolis bus, I came rolling back out faster than even my dog could have rolled.

There are safe, low-cost medical transportation services such as Metro Mobility, but Metro requires that an applicant be able to board a city bus, though getting off is the greater challenge. Clutching packages and cane in the gray, mid-winter twilight, old people tentatively lean out the door only to face a tall, icy hump and not even a driver’s leg to grab. When I once lost my balance that way, a powerful young man grabbed me and stood me up. I’m white, black men of all ages have been especially kind. Had I been treated as they’ve often been treated, I might not be as forgiving.

I had always counted on the “bloomers” to make things right. My own late 1960s/early 1960s generation would never have dared march down the street waving placards that said, “GET OUT OF VIETNAM YOU IDIOTS!” or “FLower POWER!” or make LOVE, NOT WAR.” (Our parents would have fainted at that last stanza.) Those fearless Bloomers will begin to encounter the challenges of age, along with the not-so-subtle “ageism” in our increasingly youth-oriented society. When they notice that there is no safe, non-profit, metro-wide transportation system for the elderly and that the bus stops are not safe even in the most inclement weather, they may march on City Hall or the Capitol waving their placards and cane and dried-up flowers.

In the meantime, a young friend and fellow East-Sider referred me to Dayton’s Bluff Seniors, a program that, along with providing other senior services, recruits volunteer drivers. Their phone number is 651-237-7633. We’ll get there yet, Ted, from right here.

Charlie Forrest of Forrest Heating and Air Conditioning, a family-owned East Side business since 1936.

Forrest Heating — Customer Service is Key

Mark Gallagher
Associate Editor

Charlie Forrest is a third-generation owner of Forrest Heating and Air Conditioning, which is located at 995 Burns Ave. in St. Paul. It has been at that location since Charlie’s grandfather started the business in 1936. Forrest Heating and Air Conditioning has been in business for 80 years because of its strong work ethic and by striving to keep their customers warm in the winter and cool in the summer.

“My grandfather, Lionel, worked for American Standard, which was downtown St. Paul on Kellogg Boulevard,” Charlie said. “They made radiators, boilers, and other things for the heating industry. There he learned plumbing and developed other skills that were necessary to the trade.

Lionel left American Standard and cultivated the knowledge he learned there to start Forrest Heating when Lilian was 23 years old. The business began with him repairing and installing heating systems.

“We didn’t start doing air-conditioning until the late 1970s,” Charlie said. “We were just heating contractors for the longest time, but we had many requests from our customers asking if we could install air-conditioning for them.”

Charlie said his experience in the heating and air-conditioning trade the old-fashioned way — he worked for his dad, also named Charlie. “Since I was in grade school, I would go to work for my dad, and was always the ‘gofer,’” Charlie said. “I would go to work for him almost every day a week in the summer when my dad and uncle would do boiler installs. I took over the business about five or six years ago, but being with his dad, also named Charlie. “Since I was in grade school, I would go to work for my dad, and was always the ‘gofer,’”

I need help installing a unit, we have a second opinion, I was able to go out to his house and fix the boiler. I was taught quite a few years ago how to fix all these really old systems; there is not a lot of people that do that these days because they really don’t have a lot of training in school.”

Since it’s a family business, other members of the family have worked at the company in various capacities. “My uncle, Brad, on my mom’s side, worked for the business from 35 to 40 years as our main technician,” Charlie said. “He started working there after he got out of Vietnam in 1969. My mom used to go to the book-work and answer all the phones for about forty years or so.”

Charlie told a story about his grandfather that attests to Forrest Heating and Air Conditioning’s philosophy about customer service. “Every morning my grandpa would get up, put on his overalls, and wait for my uncle Brad to get ready to go to work,” Charlie said. “Then they would drive around all day to do service calls. My grandpa knew all the customers, so he would sit and have a cup of coffee with the customer while my uncle was downstairs fixing the boiler.”

Forrest Heating and Air Conditioning specializes in Existing Fuel Burning Safety Tests (aka Orsat test) for St. Paul and Minneapolis, remodeling jobs, boiler service, repairs and installation. They can be reached by calling 651-776-4585 or by going to forresthtg.com.

Almost Famous

Nick Duncan
Forum Staff

Almost Famous

For a few days in late January and early February, the usual winter tranquility of the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary was interrupted by an army of hopeful treasure hunters.

Charlie Forrest of Forrest Heating and Air Conditioning, a family-owned East Side business since 1936.

Mark Gallagher
Associate Editor: Apryl Cave

During the 1950s, Dayton's Bluff was a stimulating, boisterous place to grow up. The streets were filled with children playing, trees were being planted, and small businesses were beginning to flourish. Several schools were within walking distance, and the community was tight-knit. The neighborhood was a place where people knew each other, and where children were expected to respect their elders.

One of the most notable features of Dayton's Bluff during the 1950s was the Eichenwald Street home of William Figge, a local businessman. The house was a magnificent home that was filled with family heirlooms, including a large and impressive mural painted by local artist Jackie Yang. The mural was a testament to the creativity and talent that was present in the neighborhood.

The Eichenwald Street home was also the location of the Figge Home, which served as a community center for many years. It was here that the Hmong Archives were first established, and where many of the community's important events took place. The archives have since moved to a new location, but the memories of the Figge Home remain strong in the hearts of many former residents.

Today, the Hmong Archives continue to be a valuable resource for the community, and they are open to the public at various times throughout the year. The archives contain a wealth of information about the history of the Hmong community in the United States, and they are an important part of the cultural heritage of Dayton's Bluff.

In conclusion, the 1950s were a time of great change and growth in Dayton's Bluff. The neighborhood was a place of opportunity and creativity, and the Eichenwald Street home of William Figge served as a symbol of the community's dedication to its future. Today, the Hmong Archives continue to be a testament to the past, and a reminder of the rich and diverse history of Dayton's Bluff.
Karin DuPaul

Home Tour Volunteers are needed

The annual Minneapolis and Saint Paul Home Tour will be held on Saturday, April 30, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm, and Sunday, May 1, from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

During the home tour, residents in both cities open their homes to the public to showcase city living and the fact that cities are great places to live. Dayton’s Bluff has a number of wonderful homes on the tour each year. The tour also shows off the many great features of Dayton’s Bluff: Metropolitan State University, Mississippi Market, our parks, the growing business community, views of the city and the Mississippi River, outstanding housing options, and of course, the wonderful people of Dayton’s Bluff.

We need volunteers to be neighborhood ambassadors to help the home owners with signing visitors in and telling them about Dayton’s Bluff.

On Sunday evening after the tour is over an “After the Home Tour Supper Party” will be held for the families whose homes are on the tour and all volunteers. It is a great way to meet other people of Dayton’s Bluff who have a passion for our community.

Many people from all over come to see the Dayton’s Bluff homes year after year because there is always something different, homes that are beautiful, and delightful new ideas for their own homes. Some visitors like it so well that they have made our neighborhood their new home.

For more information on the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Home Tour, visit mshometour.com or dayton bluff.org, and read about it in the Dayton’s Bluff District Forum. To nominate a home to be on the tour or to volunteer, email Karin@SwedeHollow.org or call 651-776-0550.

Karin DuPaul

Dayton’s Bluff resident, Gary, in front of his beautiful home, to be featured on the 2016 Minneapolis and Saint Paul Home Tour.

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Judy Lee

Rep. Sheldon Johnson wants you to know about:
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The digital divide that exists between those that have access to the internet and those who cannot afford access to the internet is one of the leading economic and civil rights issues in Minnesota.

Internet Essentials helps people and families afford internet access and computers through a partnership with local and national non-profits.

Internet Essentials provides internet for $9.95 a month to those who qualify, without credit checks, contracts, installation fees, or any gimmicks. They can also provide low cost computers and free local classes on how to use computers and the internet.

Today, it’s almost impossible for children to succeed in school or people to apply for jobs without access to the internet. For more information on obtaining low cost internet visit:

www.InternetEssentials.com

Rep. Sheldon Johnson

State Representative
SHELDON JOHNSON
259 State Office Building
100 Martin Luther King Jr.
St. Paul, MN 55155
(651) 296-4201
rep.sheldon.johnson@house.mn
www.house.mn/678
www.sheldonjohnson.com

Paid for by the Volunteers for Johnson Committee, 2013 1101 3rd Street S., St. Paul, MN 55107
Women’s History Month: Memories from Dayton’s Bluff

Steve Trimble
Forum Historian

March is Women’s History Month. While it would be impossible to write a complete story of the women from our neighborhood, here is at least a stab at outlining a few of our female residents throughout the years. They were a diverse group whose contributions were varied. Some were prominent — the so-called “women worthies” whose names often appeared in newspapers, while others carried on more anonymously.

The Mdewakanton Dakota people were early residents of “Imniza Ska” or White Cliffs, their name for St. Paul. In the late 1870s, a group lived underneath the bluffs along the Mississippi in a village named Ka-posa for many years. In the late 1870s and early twentieth century many women — mostly middle class ones who had some free time, were involved in women’s clubs. There were dozens in the neighborhood and someone should find more about them.

In the spring of 1901, Mrs. Larpenteur of Eicherwald Street entertained the Ladies Afternoon Club on a Thursday. In December, 1928, Mrs. F. A. Deifel gave a talk to the women of Dayton’s Bluff Study Club titled “The Origins of Christmas Legends and Customs of Different People.”

Many women’s activities also revolved around area churches. In November, 1901, the Ladies Aid Society of the Bates Avenue M.E. Church had a turkey supper and Christmas sale. As a display for the celebration, “there will be handkerchiefs from every state in the nation.”

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Women from less prosperous families often worked outside the home. Christine Waldock, for instance, ended her education after completing the eighth grade at Sacred Heart School. She began working at Foot-Schulze, a large manufacturing company. She became aware of the labor movement and was one of the longest members of the Garment Workers Union Local 171, often serving as its recording secretary.

Others responded to the need for childcare for working mothers. In 1930, Miss Ruth Alice Smith opened a playground for pre-school and kindergarten children in her back yard at 741 East Fifth where mothers could leave their children for an entire afternoon every day except Sunday.

Here are a few short sketches of women whose stories need to be researched and more fully written: Ebba Kirschbaum, who lived for a time in Dayton’s Bluff died in 1984 at the age of 87. She was the last licensed traditional midwife and attended over 1,600 home births starting in 1935; Ima Scheffer of 267 Maria Avenue, taught dancing in her home during the 1920s. She also ran a downtown restaurant appropriately named Café Ilma.

May Vang was the first Hmong to be on the board of the St. Paul Farmer’s Market; Margaret “Mike” Sicheland began playing softball at the Margaret Recreation Center and ended up being the director at Margaret for several decades and is in the Minnesota Sports Hall of Fame. Clara Bergmeier lived for many years at 614 North Fountain. She published the local daily German newspaper, the Volkszeitung from 1908 to 1923.

Amicie E. Keller, the widow of a prominent businessman, built eight houses on 6th Street, often called “Keller’s Row,” just east of Eichenwald in the late 1880s; Marion Carpenter was one of the first women to become an official White House photographer. She died in 2002 at the age of 82 in her Dayton’s Bluff home; JoAnn Cardenas Enos, raised in Dayton’s Bluff and a Harding High graduate, was a Latina political activist and community advocate throughout her life; Meta Siebold of 6th Street was a teacher who published “Happy Songs for Happy Children.”

Magdelana Rau graduated from nursery training in 1908. She was hired to be the Superintendent of the new St. John’s Hospital in Dayton’s Bluff and remained there for 42 years; Emily Borth was a long-time Girl Scout leader in Dayton’s Bluff who is still remembered fondly by many former troop members.

Many more names could be added. Our women’s history includes people from all walks of life — mothers, nurses, teachers, artists, club members, business owners, and workers. They deserve to be remembered. Your grandmother has a story. Will you take the time to discover it and share it with your family? And perhaps share it with the community by writing something about her for this paper.
Mississippi Market
740 E 7th Street
(651) 771-5061
Open daily: 7:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
msmarket.coop

While attending an event at Indian Mounds Park, I was given a Mississippi Market coupon for two dollars off a ten-dollar purchase. It was good until September 30, so I had to hustle off see what was there for lunch. The co-op was a long-time dream that was originally spearheaded by a local group. Then Mississippi Market – which had two other stores – stepped up and the hopes were finally realized this year. I knew that that the recently-opened natural food co-op has a deli and juice bar in addition to groceries so I wanted to check things out. There are five tables with four chairs each and counter seating for ten with a long window that has a clear view of Maple Street. They also have a classroom for public cooking classes, but today I was focused on the Taste Trek.

I found many tasty options, including salad mak- ings on a buffet. You choose your own and the weight determines the cost. The hot bar is also a weight- based buffet item. On the day I was there I saw Ethiopian cabbage and carrots, chicken tikka masala, baked salmon patties, roast chicken pilaf, Kung Pao chicken, and even a childhood favorite, mac and cheese. There are several panini sandwiches. Among them, I saw a “Creole Club” made with creole yams, a salmon cake sandwich, and a roast beef and blue cheese. There is also a soup bar with different offer- ings through the week.

Some of the choices at the juice bar include an “Apple Zinger,” as well as café au lait, tea, and smoothies like cherry-lime. Yes, the Market empha- sizes healthy food, but that doesn’t mean no sweets. Try peanut butter cookies, apple turnovers, muffins, scones, and more.

I zeroed in on a Cubano sandwich that was made with Beeleer’s ham, Swiss cheese, a pickle spear, and homemade mustard on a “New French” focaccia roll. I also accompanied it with a small “Mango Dreams Peachy” smoothie that had added soy milk and cinnamon.

When I went to the eating area I ran into the direc- tor of the Dayton’s Bluff Block Nurse program and one of my fellow board members and we had a nice chat.

The Saint Paul East Side Optimist Club: “One more thing to do”

Ann Polachek
President, East Side Optimist Club

A summary of the Saint Paul East Side Optimist Club’s activities for 2015 was published in the December 2015 Forum. With that, we thought that was the end of projects for the year until we were made aware of Mr. Mel Hartman’s T.L.C. (Tender Loving Care) Toys in Andover, Minnesota. His organization is a 501(c)(3), and is supported by corporate sponsors, in- dividuals, and from the sale of its toys.

Throughout the year, Mel and his “elves” are busy making heirloom quality wooden toys that have been designed to be safe for children. The toys consist of a variety of trucks, au- tomobiles, trains, stools, rocking chairs, cradles, dolls, caterpillars, kaleidoscopes, and treasure boxes – just to mention a few.

When we contacted him we learned that he needed help in distributing 8,000 toys in time for Christmas that his organization was donating to children in need. Among us, we determined that there was “one more thing to do.” Our members rallied. They drove out to the warehouse in Ham Lake where they loaded up several cartons of toys and delivered them directly to seven non-profits, to the tune of 742 toys. We contacted four other nonprofits and made them aware of the program. They too, made the trip to Ham Lake. Subsequently, they distributed 1,000 toys.

Within our organization we had 70 extra toys to deploy. Members deliv- ered 61 to families. From the remaining nine, $232.00 in donations were collected on behalf of TLC. Members delivered 61 to families. From the remaining nine, $232.00 in donations were collected on behalf of TLC. When we contacted him we learned that he needed help in distributing 8,000 toys in time for Christmas that his organization was donating to children in need.

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**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@daytonsbluff.org.

Lucas Roberto and his cousin, Maggie, wouldn’t dream of visiting the Boundary Waters Canoe Area without their copy of the Dayton’s Bluff District Forum.

Francisco Balderrama reads his Forum in the New York City subway.

Chris Lollie, a newly elected member of the Dayton’s Bluff Board of Directors, has reached a settlement with the City of St. Paul for his lawsuit alleging excessive force by the police. His case garnered public attention in August 2014 after he posted video of his interaction with police who he said targeted him for sitting in a public skyway area because he is black, and then proceeded to taser and arrest him. Lollie sued for $500,000 and has reportedly settled for $100,000.

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**2015 Neighborhood Honor Roll annual celebration**

*Karin DuPaul*  
Forum staff

The 2015 Saint Paul Neighborhood Honor Roll honorees were announced on January 29, 2016 at the annual celebration of St. Paul’s volunteers at the University of Saint Thomas. Mayor Chris Coleman gave an inspiring talk about citizen participation and the things that are accomplished because of it.

The event gives attendees an opportunity to learn about and talk to dedicated people from all of Saint Paul’s neighborhoods. The Honor Roll started in the 1980s and plaques with all of the names hang on the walls of the third floor of Saint Paul City Hall. Honorees are citizens and organizations that do outstanding ongoing service in their neighborhoods over a long period of time.

Each year, Saint Paul’s 17 District Councils can add up to three names to the Neighborhood Honor Roll. If you know of a good candidate for next year’s Honor Roll, contact the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council at 651-772-2075. Your candidate may be added in 2017.

Added to the Honor Roll this year was WEQY 104.7, the radio station being operated by Benjamin James, Thom Derus – DJ Dom Terrace, Shay “Glorius” Martin – DJ Hutch What, and Nick “Mastermind” Mohammad. Ben, Thom, and Nick volunteered many hours on the technical team. They helped design the build-out of the station, deciding on equipment needed and setting up both the broadcast and production studios. “Glo” spends many hours creating playlists and show formats.

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**Many thanks to our 2015-2016 donors:**

Kayla Brinkman  
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Jonathan Sherman  
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Steve Trimble  
Tom Trimble  
Ward 6 Food & Drink  
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**Are you receiving your copy of the Forum each month?**

If you live in the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood, you should receive your copy of the Dayton’s Bluff District Forum within the first two weeks of each month.

If you live within the neighborhood and feel you have missed delivery, please email editor@daytonsbluff.org along with your name and mailing address. We will contact the US Postal Service on your behalf.

If you do not live within the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood but enjoy reading the Forum, you can pick up a copy at many neighborhood locations, including the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council offices at 804 Margaret Street, or email editor@daytonsbluff.org to have the Forum mailed to you for a yearly fee of $15.

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**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 three 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 2016. Our goal for the year is $2,000; as of this printing we have raised $465. Won’t you help us?

Sincerely,

The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum

Friend of the Forum, will travel