

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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"The Voice of the Community"

Lower Phalen Creek Project celebrates Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary

Karin DuPaul
Forum Staff

The Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary was opened as a city park in 2005. The Lower Phalen Creek Project (LPCP) started the effort to create the sanctuary when the Upper Swede Hollow Neighborhood Association members and other interested folks including Chris Baessler, Amy Middleton, and Sarah Clark, were wanting to make the area from Swede Hollow Park to the Mississippi River a pleasant, clean, nature area like Swede Hollow Park. Now, the area is the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary, a very special natural area with a rich Dakota

and immigrant history. The sanctuary's Wakan Tipi cave is a sacred Dakota site.

The LPCP hosted the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary celebration on Saturday, October 1, to celebrate the progress that has been made and plans for the future. Many partner and environmental organizations provided activities and information.

Future sanctuary plans include a bridge to connect the Bruce Vento Regional Trail to the Samuel Morgan Trail next to the Mississippi River, as well as to build an interpretive center at the entrance called the Wakan Tipi Center.

The event included music by The Coxmen, food vendors, coffee by The Goat Coffeehouse, and walking tours of the sanctuary. People from across the metro visited the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary and enjoyed the celebration.

Karin DuPaul can be reached at editor@daytonsbluff.org.



Daniela Bell

Young and old alike enjoyed the natural beauty of the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary on Saturday, October 1.



Nick Duncan

The property at 208-210 Bates Avenue, formerly known as the Schacht Building, dates back to the 1880s and will be spared the wrecking ball thanks to community support and a new owner, Dayton's Bluff resident and restaurant owner, Eric Foster.

208-210 Bates Avenue: Soon to be on the build!

Nick Duncan
Forum Staff

On Wednesday, October 12, the Saint Paul Housing and Redevelopment Authority agreed to sell the four unit apartment building at 208-210 Bates Avenue to Eric Foster and the Historic Saint Paul Nonprofit Corporation for the grand sum of \$1. The sale will save the 1880s era property known as the "Schacht Building" from the city's wrecking ball.

The Schacht Building is one of six vacant city-owned properties in the Dayton's Bluff Historic District that the city council voted to tear down in December of 2015, overriding the objections of the Saint Paul Historic Preservation Commission. The city's unprecedented mass tear down plan, dubbed by some as the "Dayton's Bluff Demolition Derby," drew criticism from preservationists and many local residents.

Bowing to the concerns of those opposed to the mass tear down plan, including newly elected city council member Jane Prince, the city agreed to allow neighbors to organize a tour of the vacant properties in a last-ditch effort to find buyers.

In April of 2016, the vacant home

tour drew large crowds of curious visitors including some potential buyers. Among those touring the homes was long-time Dayton's Bluff resident and local small business owner, Eric Foster.

The city agreed to offer the properties for \$1, with the stipulation that the buyer would invest the necessary capitol to rehab the buildings under the Historic District guidelines and not sell the property for a set number of years. In the case of the Schacht Building, Foster and Historic Saint Paul are obligated to keep the building as two two-bedroom units and two one-bedroom units at affordable rent for 15 years.

In return, the city agreed to dedicate \$600,000 – which includes over \$300,000 in Community Development Block Grant funds – to the project. The money comes from city resources budgeted for affordable housing and housing redevelopment.

The reason the city is willing to invest in the project is because it hits on so many of the city's top initiatives. This project will provide affordable housing, neighborhood revitalization, and protection for a historic structure in one of the city's historic districts.

Once the final paperwork is finished, Foster plans to commence work as soon as possible. Though it's too soon to set a time line, the new owners are hoping that work will be completed sometime in 2017.

Nick Duncan can be reached at editor@daytonsbluff.org

Where in Dayton's Bluff?

More chances to win great local prizes!

Tell us where in Dayton's Bluff the photo on page 7 was taken. Email your guess to editor@daytonsbluff.org. The first correct entry will win a great prize from a local business!

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Steve Trimble

Students from the Farnsworth Aerospace Academy marched in the 109th Annual Payne Arcade Harvest Festival Parade on Saturday, September 19, 2016.

Dayton's Bluff Take-a-Hike

The Hike is back! Now on the **second Saturday** of most months, the Dayton's Bluff Take-a-Hike will begin at Indian Mounds Park, located at Earl Street and Mounds Boulevard, at **10:30 a.m.**

The next hike will be on **Saturday, November 12.** The hike is approximately one and a half to two hours long and will end at Swede Hollow Park or East Side Heritage Park, depending on the desire of the hikers. Share and learn a little history along the way! Email karindupaul@comcast.net or call 651-776-0550 for more information.

Friends of Swede Hollow

Watch over, restore, and celebrate the history of Swede Hollow Park. Join the Swede Hollow community at their monthly meeting on **Wednesday, November 2, at 6:30 p.m.** Email karin@swedehollow.org or call 651-776-0550 for more information and the meeting's location.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum Board Meeting

The *Forum* is seeking help with writing, online content, idea generation, and ad sales. Join us at our next meeting on **Thursday, November 3, at 1:00 p.m.,** at Swede Hollow Cafe (725 E. 7th Street). Call 651-776-0550 or email editor@daytonsbuff.org for more information.

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 on **Wednesday, November 16, at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.** Meetings are intended as a time to listen to and address concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

Let's stay connected!

Find out what's happening in your community and at the Dayton's Bluff Community Council. DBCC sends out a monthly newsletter to keep residents informed about current programs and issues that impact our community. It's easy to sign up – just text BLUFF to 22828 to sign up and start getting updates delivered directly to your inbox today!



SNAP Food Program at CLUES (Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio)

¿Necesita más comida saludable para la familia? El programa SNAP le puede ayudar. SNAP proporciona fondos para alimentos que benefician a familias de escasos recursos.

Aún si no es ciudadano, si tiene hijos nacidos en este país ellos podrían calificar. Participar en el programa SNAP no afectará su estatus migratorio.

¡Llame a CLUES para saber si califica! 612-746-3500. Nuestro personal bilingüe puede facilitar el proceso para usted y su familia.

Need more healthy food for your family? The SNAP program provides funds for low-income families to buy food. Even if you are not a citizen, your children born in this country could qualify. Participation in the SNAP program won't affect their immigration status.

Call CLUES to find out if you qualify at 612-746-3500. Our bilingual staff can facilitate the process for you and your family.

Twin Cities Mobile Market

The Twin Cities Mobile Market is a grocery store on wheels that brings affordable, healthy food directly into under-resourced neighborhoods. The Mobile Market stops at Parkway Gardens Apartments, located at 1145 Hudson Road, on Wednesdays, from **2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.**



Thursday, November 3 – Saturday, November 5: *Keys*, a new comedy in two acts by Marino and Elizabeth Eccher, presented by Desperate For Approval. After the breakup, it's time for Maggie to get her stuff back. But she's locked out, her ex is locked in, and everybody else - the maintenance man, the cops, the high-strung delivery guy and the mysterious stranger - is offering to do anything but help. This show contains strong language and adult themes. Recommended for ages 18+. Tickets \$15 in advance, \$18 at the door.

Saturday, November 19: Independent Wrestling International (IWI). Doors open at **6:45 p.m.** Bell is at 7:30 p.m. Come early to get the best seats!

Coming in December: *A Klingon Christmas Carol* return to the Mounds for a second year. It's just like Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol* only way different. It's the classic tale of Squja' learning the true meaning of courage and honor on the eve of the Long Night. Presented in the original Klingon with English supertitles. You don't have to be a *Star Trek* fan to enjoy this play (but it's even more fun if you are).

Visit moundstheatre.org for more information on these and other events not listed here, and to purchase tickets as they become available. The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106; 651-772-2253; historicmoundstheatre@gmail.com.

November at the Dayton's Bluff Library

Join the Dayton's Bluff Library for the following events taking place in November: *FunZONE: Games and Maker Space*; **Saturdays in November, from noon to 2:00 p.m.**

Third Saturday Social; **Saturday, November 19, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.** Explore a different part of the world by learning about its local cus-

toms, crafts, and cuisine.

Homework Help in the Zone! Students may drop in to use homework centers – comfortable spaces at the library where students of all ages can drop in and work on their homework independently or with the help of volunteer tutors. The centers are equipped with comfortable furniture, computers, printers, reference books, and school supplies for student use. *Homework Help in the Zone* is available **Monday-Wednesday, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., and Sundays, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

For information about these and other events check spl.org or call 651-793-1699. The Dayton's Bluff Library shares its home with Metropolitan State University at 645 East 7th Street.

November at the East Side Freedom Library

On **November 4 and 5, at 8:00 p.m.,** take in Anne Millikan's opera, *Swede Hollow*, which explores the lives of fictionalized Swedish, Italian, and Mexican immigrants.

The East Side Freedom Library is partnering with the Community Education department of Saint Paul Schools to offer "Connecting with Rosie the Riveter," a four-week history course about women and the changing dynamics of American labor in the twentieth century.

The class will meet **Mondays in November, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.** Visit East Side Freedom Library on Facebook to register.

On **Friday, November 11, from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.,** ESFL will host the opening of an exhibit of Karen women's weaving. The exhibit will display work done over the past year at the East Side Freedom Library by Karen women. The project has been in collaboration with the Karen Organization of Minnesota and the Minnesota Weavers' Guild, supported by the Minnesota State Arts Board. The women will demonstrate their weaving techniques and speak about their work.

This is a very special opportunity for East Siders to get to know their newest neighbors, the Karen.

The East Side Freedom Library is located at 1150 Greenbrier Street. Call 651-230-3294, email info@eastsidefreedomlibrary.org, or visit eastsidefreedomlibrary.org for details on these and other upcoming events.

Business Classes

The next Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Class begins in the fall of 2016. This program helps start-up and young businesses on the East Side. Class training lasts eight weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, one-on-one assistance with creating 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.

The course is sponsored by the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and the Neighborhood Development Center. There is a small registration fee based on a sliding scale. Class size is limited. Call Emma Spillman at 651-379-8432 to apply.

Can you read Swedish?

Last spring, two reporters for a Swedish newspaper came to the East Side to research and write a story about the history of Swede Hollow. They interviewed people who have written about the Hollow, those whose relatives lived there, and even some who were born and raised in the valley, including 94 year old Joe Sanchelli.

The duo shared that a recent visitor had written a novel called Swede Hollow. Forum staff were able to get copies of the newspaper, but are looking to make a translation of the article, which is in Swedish. The novel is also in Swedish and someone is trying to try to find a copy.

If you or a person you know can read Swedish and might be willing to help out, please contact Karin DuPaul with the Friends of Swede Hollow organization at 651-776-0550, or karin@swedehollow.org.

East Side Elders presents Elder Cafe: Minnesota's Hmong People

On **Thursday, November 10, from noon to 2:00 p.m.** at First Lutheran Church, 463 Maria Avenue, St. Paul. East Side Elders presents *Elder Cafe: Minnesota's Hmong People*. Hear Mark E. Pfeifer, PhD, from the Hmong Cultural Center share the story of the Hmong people and their journey to Minnesota.

Call 651-683-2326 to make a reservation or to request a ride. Elder Cafe cannot guarantee a meal without a reservation.

Admission is free for seniors age 60 and over; all other guests are invited to make a suggested donation of \$10.00. This event is presented in partnership between East Side Elders and First Lutheran Church of Dayton's Bluff.

English Language Learner & English as a Second Language classes at CLUES

Free fall semester adult English language classes will be offered **now through December 15, 2016.** Day and evening classes with childcare are available.

Registration is held on **Thursdays from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.** Walk-ins are also accepted on other days. Classes run **Monday-Friday, from 10:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., and on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings from 6:00 p.m. until 8:30 p.m.**

Class levels are determined by a pre-test for proper placement level at registration. Registration is ongoing throughout the semester and students attend a minimum of three days per week.

The curriculum is designed for adults and focuses on basic living skills. In Minnesota, the approved standardized assessments for adult ESL/ELL classes is the CASAS instrument (a comprehensive adult student assessment system). After 40-60 hours of instruction, CASAS is again administered to measure progress. Testing and monitoring progress are in accordance with the Minnesota Department of Education standards.

CLUES is located at 797 East 7th Street. For more information, contact Roz Johnson, at rjohnson@clues.org or 651-379-4222.

★★★ Sheldon Johnson

For State Representative

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In the legislature, Sheldon has prioritized protecting working families and achieving investments in the Eastside of St. Paul. Sheldon Johnson successfully fights for the Eastside, securing millions of dollars in economic development projects, improving our schools, and creating opportunities for future generations.

Sheldon is standing up for the Eastside!

- Secured \$70 million in new funds aimed at eliminating Minnesota's extreme racial disparities.
- Ensured all-day every-day kindergarten is available to every Minnesota child.
- Chief author of bill to fund the Wakan Tipi Visitor Center in the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary

Vote for Sheldon on November 8th!

For more information on voting, finding your polling location and registering to vote, visit www.mnvotes.org



State Representative

SHELDON JOHNSON

259 State Office Building
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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 neighborhood congregation where cultures meet, located at 1049 Euclid Street in Dayton's Bluff. Sunday worship starts at **10:30 a.m.** Come and meet your neighbors!

Weekly in November: *Fall After-School Program for area Youth*, sponsored by McVay Youth Partnership of Hamline University. This is an after-school program for all community youth grades 5-12 at Mounds Park Church from **3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., Monday, Wednesday, and Friday** of each week offering cooking classes, games, homework help, field trips, and help learning English. Contact Jane Krentz at (612) 581-6978 for more information.

Wednesday, November 16: Starting at **noon**, join Mounds Park United Methodist for a *Community Friendship Gathering* with hot lunch. The day will begin with a hot lunch of turkey and dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, cranberries, glazed baby carrots, roll, and dessert, followed by a program featuring recording artist and composer, Michelle Kaye, alternating between piano and vocal pieces. All are invited to come; the focus of this event is on persons age 55 and over. A donation of \$8.00 is suggested.

Sunday, November 20: *Community lunch and silent auction*; lunch will be served by the youth group beginning at **11:30 a.m.** The cost of the meal will be covered by a free-will offering. The youth group will also be hosting their annual Silent Auction on Sunday, November 20, from **11:45 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** During lunch, you may check out the auction tables. Nearly 100 items are anticipated from local businesses and members of the church (gift cards, certificates for events, certificates for services, homemade foods, and hand crafted items).

Sunday, November 27: Starting at **10:30 a.m.**, join the congregation for *Advent Worship*. Come and prepare your hearts for the coming of Christmas. Holy Communion will be served to all. Special music, prayers, and songs that will help us pause and prepare ourselves for the season of hope, joy, love, and peace.

1st Annual Senator Foug Hawj East Side Cookout

*Bill Fleming
Special to the Forum*

On October 6, Senator Foug Hawj welcomed special guest, Governor Mark Dayton, to the historic East Side neighborhoods of Swede Hollow, Dayton's Bluff, and Railroad island. The event, held at Upper Swede Hollow Park, the historic site of the Hamm Family Mansion, was a celebration of rejuvenation of those communities, enriched by being home to Native Americans and newly immigrated Americans dating back to before 1840.

Standing, nearly in the shadow of the growing Metro State University, Karin DuPaul, president of the Friends of Swede Hollow group, welcomed Governor Dayton, Senator Hawj, and over 100 residents and local officials to Upper Swede Hollow Park. DuPaul spoke of the historic significance of the area and announced, "Because of our communities' opposition and action, the Swede Hollow portion of the Bruce Vento Regional Trail will no longer be considered as part of the Rush Line Corridor." Senator Hawj congratulated the community and local leaders

saying, "While the Rush Line is very important to the East Side and outer ring cities and counties, we celebrate this local victory to once again preserve the historic Swede Hollow parks and trails. This assures the quality of life we are working so hard for and that helps bring business and jobs back to the Swede Hollow area."

Senator Hawj plans to host an annual East Side Cookout to highlight the many parks and recreational areas of the East Side of St. Paul. He called on all present to "Exercise your right and responsibility to vote so that the East Side voice continues to be heard!"

Bill Fleming can be reached at flemingb777@gmail.com, or (612) 865-5427.



Bill Fleming

Senator Foug Hawj and Governor Mark Dayton served food to hungry attendees of the 1st Annual Senator Foug Hawj East Side Cookout.

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Becoming Whole: In Pieces gallery exhibition

Robert Boos
Metropolitan State University

Becoming Whole: In Pieces, an exhibition that features artwork by members of the Minnesota Mosaic Guild (MMG) and showcases the variety in the field, from highly decorative utilitarian objects to sumptuous local landscapes, will be exhibited from October 27, to December 2, at the Gordon Parks Gallery.

The exhibit opens with a reception from 5:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., Thursday, October 27. The gallery is located at Metropolitan State University's Saint Paul campus on the third floor of the Library and Learning Center.

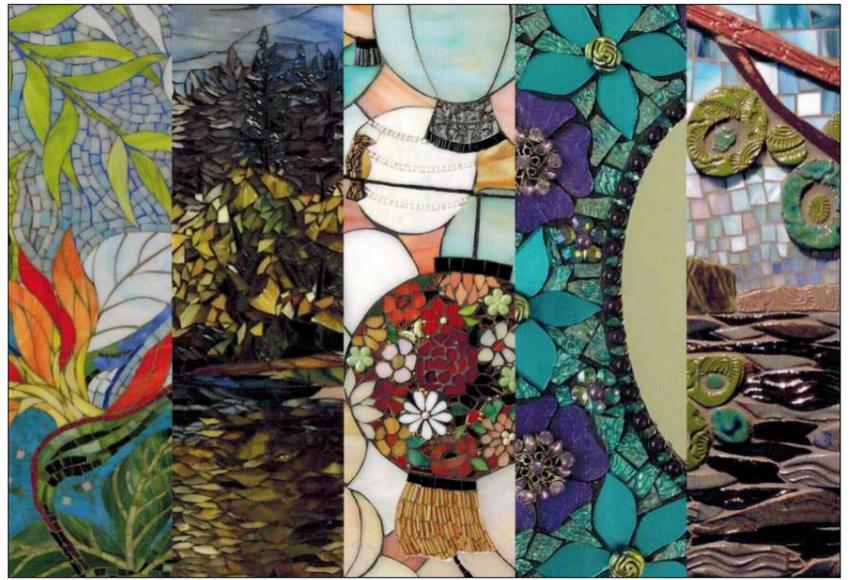
Regarding the show, Trudy Vrchota, exhibition coordinator and mosaic artist explains, "Mosaic shows are truly diverse both in the individual artist's style and the range of materials that each artist incorporates into

their mosaic pieces. We use glass, ceramics, marble, stone, beads, and found objects in our work. The colors are brilliant and the textures are rich. This makes for a dynamic and inspiring show."

Established in 2004, MMG was formed to promote the art of mosaic, foster exploration and experimentation in the media, provide educational opportunities in mosaic, as well as share and celebrate the diversity of experience and knowledge in the media.

Exhibition participants include Cheryl Anderson, Minneapolis; Rachel Arntson, Maple Grove; Donna Brolander, Bloomington; Rebecca Campbell, Ashland, WI; Rebecca Carroll, Minneapolis; Kristen Dieng-Plymouth; Debra D' Souza, Rochester; Gilbert Gragert, Stillwater; Kelly Holzer, Jordan; Janet Houck, Saint Paul; Janine Irisarri, Plymouth; Mimi Leminh, Chaska; Susan Mathis, Woodbury; Danette Polglase, Scandia; Judy Sell, Stillwater; Barbara Steen, Saint Louis Park; Sheryl Tuorila, Brooklyn Park; Trudy Vrchota, Eden Prairie; and Erin Ward, Saint Paul.

For more information about the exhibit, contact Erica Rasmussen, gallery director, at 651-999-5942 or erica.rasmussen@metrostate.edu.



Metropolitan State University

Examples of mosaic work to be displayed as part of the gallery exhibition, *Becoming Whole: In Pieces*, on view October 27, through December 2.

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 week of each month.

If you live within the neighborhood and have missed delivery, please email editor@daytonsbuff.org

with your name and mailing address. We will contact the US Postal Service on your behalf.

If you live outside of the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood, you can pick up a copy of the *Forum* at the Dayton's Bluff Community Council offices at 804 Margaret Street, or email editor@daytonsbuff.org to have the *Forum* mailed to you for a yearly fee of \$15.

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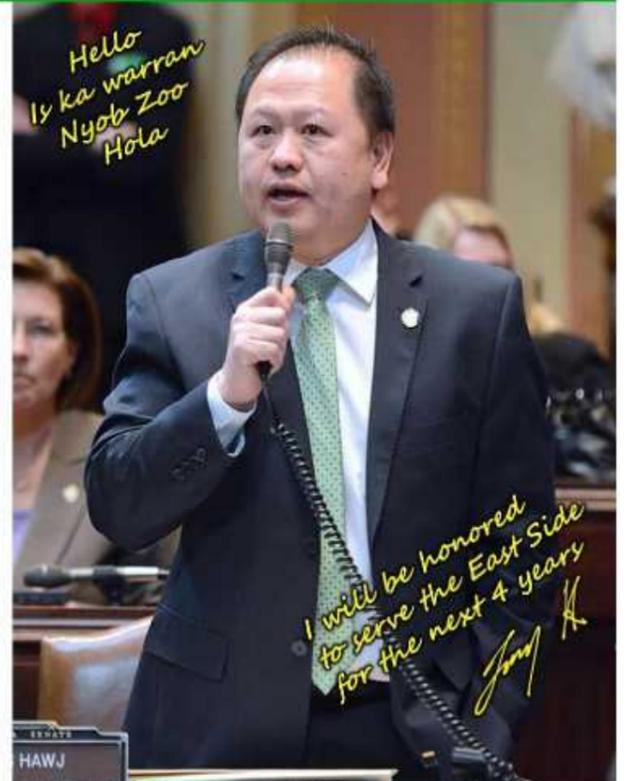
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Prepared and paid for by Fong for Senate 67 Committee

East Side Learning Center: changing young lives

Mark Gallagher
Forum Staff

The East Side Learning Center (ESLC) has been changing young lives since February of 2001. A pilot program started in the John A. Johnson Achievement Plus Elementary School, previously Johnson High School, was the impetus behind this extraordinarily successful tutoring program operated by the School Sisters of Notre Dame (SSND).

In the late 1990s, a friend of the SSND, Jim Finnell, was at a meeting of leaders on the East Side of St. Paul who were looking at the educational needs of the area. Finnell, who knew of the Sisters from some development work he had done with them, asked, "Could the Sisters collaborate with this effort?"

The SSND, who had served the East Side for the previous 130 years in various capacities, became excited about the idea. What they could do about the opportunity?

Sister Audrey Lindenfelser, Executive Director of the ESLC, explains: "When Jim Finnell came to the SSND, the Sisters formed a committee and met for three years, trying to decide how we could respond to that need — because part of our value is to respond to an *unmet need*."

The Sisters on the committee tried a number of different things. "The committee said, 'Let's try a tutoring program,' and asked me to find a location to get it started," Sister Audrey says.

"We had no roadmap. I toured the East Side. I went to churches, the Na-

tional Guard armory, libraries, and anywhere that looked like they might have room. They all said it was a good idea but had no room for a designated space."

Around the same time, John A. Johnson Elementary was being renovated, and they had an empty classroom.



Sister Audrey Lindenfelser, Executive Director of the East Side Learning Center, (center) enjoying a tutoring session with a tutor and a student.

"Maria Lamb, then the Executive Director of Achievement Plus, mentioned that we should submit a proposal," Sister Audrey says. "So we met with her, submitted a proposal, and started with 19 children, 20 volunteers and myself. We tutored those children after school here at Johnson Achievement Plus Elementary School."

The tutoring program started in 2001. It worked so well that the School Sisters of Notre Dame kept it going for the next 16 years. There are currently five schools involved with the ESLC tutoring program: three are St. Paul Public

Schools and two are charter schools. All are on the East Side.

Each child gets one-on-one tutoring time four days a week during the school year and five days a week during the summer. "Last year the ESLC served 445 children during the school year and

to determine which students are recommended for the tutoring program," says Sister Audrey. "Also, we have to consider the parents. If the parents want their child in tutoring, they would be given priority because the parents took the initiative to inquire about tutoring."

The East Side Learning Center uses McGraw-Hill Guided Reading. The students progress from level A to level B to level C, and so on. A child needs to cover each level from kindergarten to third grade. If the child is an English Language Learner (new to the English language), there is more vocabulary the child has to learn.

"The children don't all go at the same rate," Sister Audrey says. "That is why tutoring is so wonderful — it meets the needs of each student every day. They have their own personalized lesson every day. I always say — that's our secret sauce — a personalized lesson every day. Then I say you mix that secret sauce with those volunteer tutors and with those retired teachers — you have success."

You know, it's a win/win — a win for the school because the East Side Learning Center has support — and it's a win for the children, a win for the parents, and it reverberates across St. Paul because when a child can read, that child can be successful in the classroom. They will graduate from high school, and they can be a successful person in the community."

Mark Gallagher is the associate editor of the Dayton's Bluff Forum and a graduate of Metropolitan State University. Mark can be reached at refineEditorial@gmail.com.

the summer," says Sister Audrey. "We could not do that without community volunteers. Community volunteers provide about 50 percent of the tutoring."

The host school provides rent-free space, tables, and chairs. Generally, the ESLC serves the students that attend the host schools, but other students are welcome if there is room. Thirty minutes per day is the minimum time tutors spend with kindergarten students; first, second, and third graders can be with tutors up to 45 minutes per day.

"We collaborate with the classroom teachers and the school's literary coach



Karin DuPaul

A good number of people attended this year's "Watch the Glow" event held in Swede Hollow Park. After the sun set, the evening cookout began and socializing continued. The crowd included a former Swede Hollow resident and Hamm's employees. Historians Steve Trimble and Jim Sazevich shared some history of the days when Swede Hollow was a little village in the middle of the city. Watch the Glow is hosted annually by Friends of Swede Hollow, a nonprofit organization that works on Swede Hollow issues, plantings, cleanups, education, history tours, and events. For more information, email karin@swedehollow.org or call (651) 776-0550.



Tim Chesterman

Bob Parker, co-owner of Ward 6 Food & Drink, proudly displays one of the establishment's featured cocktails — "My Name is Prince," a drink Parker once prepared for singer Prince, who ordered three of the libations.

My name is Prince

Nick Duncan
Forum Staff

October 13, 2016, "Prince Day" in Saint Paul, culminated with a sold out, star-studded, Prince tribute concert at the Xcel Energy Center. It's been more than six months since the musical genius and Minnesota original passed away, but his legend is not forgotten. In fact, *Forum* staff found a Dayton's Bluff connection.

Bob Parker, Dayton's Bluff resident, co-owner of Ward 6 Food & Drink, and mixologist extraordinaire, was managing the old Loring Bar in 1999, when he received a call one evening. The voice on the phone told him that he would be receiving a "special guest" that night, and could a table be ready for him? Bob, being the card that he is, immediately asked "Oh, is Prince coming?" "He prefers to be called 'The Artist'" came the terse reply. "Right! So what time is Prince going to be here?"

Remember, by 1999, Prince was no longer 'Prince' but due to contract disputes with his label and artistic choices, he had morphed into 'the Artist' formerly known as Prince."

When Prince arrived, Bob asked him if he wanted a table for dinner. "Prince, are you having dinner? Would you like a more private table, Prince?"

Prince demurred, asking for a table in the bar, so that he could hear Estaire Godinez, who he was auditioning for his own band that night. Bob had to ask a group to give up their table "for Prince" which they did enthusiastically. Next came, "Prince, would you like a cocktail?" Prince asked him for a recommendation. Bob said that a Ricky Ricardo was a personal favorite, and the Purple One accepted. In fact, he enjoyed three of the Rum, Kahlua, and cream cocktails that night.

In honor of the passing of the beloved Minnesota legend, Ward 6 has renamed the Ricky Ricardo to "My Name is Prince," and it is a featured drink on the menu. Ask for it by name, in a quiet, low voice.

Nick Duncan can be reached at editor@daytonsbluff.org.



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A century ago in Dayton's Bluff

Steve Trimble
Forum Historian

Once a year, especially when I can't figure out what to research for a history article, I look to see what was brewing in Dayton's Bluff a century ago. Last month, I checked out the newspaper for October, 1916, but failed to find anything about our neighborhood. Things were different when I journeyed to the Minnesota Historical Society recently and looked at the microfilm of the *St. Paul Daily News* for November, 1916. Here's some of what I discovered.

First up was a November 5 piece on the Margaret Recreation Center, which was pretty new at the time. It seems that Girl Leader Miss Ruth Smith, wrote an official song for the group. Here it is and, perchance, the current Stewards of Margaret Park (STOMP) could change "recreation center" to "park," learn the words, and sing it at a community gathering. It was designed to use the tune of "On, Wisconsin." How about it, Jennifer Herman?

Here it is – the back slashes show the end of the lines: "Margaret Recreation Center/ To this name be true/ We're a countless company/ And loyalty our due/ Margaret Recreation Center/ One in spirit we/ On, on with cheer/ United ever be/ Margaret Recreation Center/ This our purpose high/ To think and work and play together/ Each to fortify/ Margaret Recreation Center/ True in heart are we/ Forward we go whole-hearted, joyously."

The November 11 issue of the paper announced that the Saint John Evangelical Lutheran Church at Margaret and Hope Streets would be celebrating its 25th anniversary. There would be special services, including two morning services that were conducted in German and an evening service in both German and English. The "ladies of the church" were serving dinner at the festivities.

There was a November 17 link between the just-fin-

ished 1916 presidential election and the local political scene. Democrat Woodrow Wilson had just beaten Charles Hughes, and two St. Paul men had bet on the outcome. Hughes supporter, Al Myers, of 281 Hoffman, lost to Earl Mann, who backed Wilson. Dressed as a "farmer comedian" Myers had to push a wheelbarrow on a Saturday afternoon around downtown while

Kindergartners at Mound Park Build Store and Lay in Big Stock



Minnesota Historical Society

Mound Park Elementary Kindergartners were featured in the *Saint Paul Daily News* on November 19, 1916.

the winner sat proudly in the vehicle.

There was also a mention of our area in a "Sixty Years Ago" box – seems kind of appropriate for a "Century Ago" article. Take away sixty from 1916 and you have 1856. The *Daily News* revealed that early St. Paul resident J. A. Stees had a Thanksgiving dinner featuring a deer that he had shot in Mounds Park, adding that the area "was now part of the city."

Kindergarten students made it into the newspaper

on November 21. They attended Mound Park Elementary – yes it was spelled that way at the time. Miss Carrie Ambler and Miss Frances Biskup, two of the teachers, helped them construct three landscapes of the neighborhood including a grocery store with miniature sacks of flour other packaged goods, and a street scene of trolley cars on the Rondo-Maria streetcar line that ran a block east of the school.

On November 22, Gust Strand of 909 Fauquier, who worked for the People's Ice and Coal Company, suffered a compound fracture when a cake of ice slipped from his shoulder and struck his leg. A splintered bone broke a blood vessel and many thought an air bubble entered his heart or lung and "if the bubble got stuck in a small blood vessel, death would follow swiftly." However, the city coroner later stated that Strand had simply died of a heart attack.

I hate to end on another sad note, but the following was in the *Daily News* on November 29. The thirteen year-old step-sister of four year-old Park Davis, of 657 East Seventh had been having problems with her eyes. She went to a downtown doctor and the paper said she was given a bottle of "Atrophine Sulfate" to treat her eyes. (Atropine Sulfate is still used to dilate eyes, so the paper may have misspelled the drug. I also found there is such a thing as Atropine poisoning.)

After the initial treatment, her mother put the medicine in a cupboard. Soon after, it was discovered that her sibling had drank the remains of the medicine. The mother made him drink milk hoping it would act as an emetic, but it did not expel the poisonous brew. Park was rushed to the nearby St. John's Hospital, but died early the next morning.

There was actually one other very interesting event that involved Sibley Elementary School, a student, a principal, and an episode of discipline that raised questions at the tail end of November. However, it was covered in two fairly long articles in the *Daily News* and there's no room for it now. So look for a possibly thought-provoking article in the next issue of the *Forum*.

Steve Trimble can be reached at editor@daytonsbluff.org.

Dakota astronomy comes alive on the East Side

Carol Sommers
Special to the Forum

Indian Mounds Park today is a marvel, but its six mounds, remnants of an original eighteen, barely suggest the complex world that was here before the European invasion. Jim Rock, a university educator of Dakota and German heritage and a child of the Indian Mounds Park neighborhood (he was born at the former Mounds Park Hospital), is working hard to inform us of that past world. Like the mounds-building societies and the Dakota people, he starts with the sky.

Rock is steeped in ancient Dakota astronomy and trained academically in modern astronomy. He speaks English, Dakota, and German, all of which serve his knowledge of Dakota history, science, and myth. At the August East Side Elder Café, he presented the Dakota sky map of our constellations, introducing Dakota knowledge of the galaxy. In September, he led a walking tour of Indian Mounds Park for board members of the Maya Society of Minnesota, along with locals. There, he elaborated on the land's physical relationship with the ancient Dakota sky map.

That relationship was precise: the night sky (then clearly visible) was key to the cultures of the mounds builders and the Dakota, as it was to many ancient peoples throughout the world. In his presentations and book, Rock ties together the Sky-Earth cosmology of the Dakota with their creation myth, ancestral memory, and documented history. He uncovers some deep dimensions of early Americans' knowledge and belief systems, long buried in the dominant culture's reductions of them. Certainly more sophisticated and spiritual than any New Age celebrations could suggest, these complex systems have a lot to teach us about our universe today.

The existing mounds, part of a once-huge network of mounds, settlements, and migration routes, invite us to learn of that network. Some Early American societies built many thousands of mounds from the Ohio River Valley, westward across the country. A belt of Midwestern mounds follows the Mississippi and Wisconsin Rivers (once studding the banks of the Lower Wisconsin) to Effigy Mounds Park on the Iowa bank of the Mississippi. There were effigy mounds (animal and human shapes), and conical, round, and rectangular mounds. Each had a particular function, including sacred burials.

Mainly such mounds served as calculators tracking the sky and its changes as it turned above and around the earth. These "calendars" served the people as

timely guides to seasonal navigation, agricultural plantings, and annual celebrations and rites. Rock points out that our original 18 tracked different scales of time from daylight hours to seasonal constellation shifts to the 18-year cycle of Venus.

What Jim Rock demonstrates is the reality of living in an integrated sky-earth universe that the Dakota lived in. They mapped, daily, their landscape and its extending waterways by "reading" the sky which they saw as a mirror of Earth. They structured their travels, migrations, and artifacts in keeping with that vision. Their most essential artifact, the tipi, is a physical and spiritual representation of the Dakotas' sky-earth mirror: two tipis combined – one inverted atop the other, with one circular base rooted on Earth and the other opening round into the sky. Each of the tipi's three main poles is positioned to point to a key star.

The cultural landscape legacies of the Dakota as explained by Rock, offer us revealing and enriching views of our own endlessly connected lives in the universe. Mr. Rock is available for programs, and his book *D(L)akota Star Map Constellation Guide*, co-written with Annette S. Lee and Charlene O'Rourke, is available through Indigenous Educational Design (763-546-0406).



Steve Trimble

Jim Rock explains the significance of the "Sacred Bowl" at Indian Mounds Park. The sculpture was carved by Dewey Goodman, an Ojibwe artist.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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Next issue: December 2016. **Deadline for material: November 10, 2016.**

East Side Eating – Trimble's Taste Trek

Forum contributor Steve Trimble ate at every locally-owned, sit-down restaurant on the East Side. He hopes to get the word out to Dayton's Bluff about the eating options here on our side of town.

There are more restaurants than there is room for in the monthly paper, but at least 59 may now be found online at daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org: click on "East Side Eating" at the top of the home page. Steve Trimble can be reached at editor@daytonsbuff.org.

Far East Bar & Restaurant

959 Arcade Street
(651) 440-9942

Tuesday-Saturday: 11:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Sunday: 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Bar hours: Tuesday-Sunday: 5:00 p.m. to midnight

Facebook/Far East Bar & Restaurant

Here is the second venture out to visit one of the new restaurants of 2016 that need to be added to the Eat Side Eating Epilogue. It was time to visit the old site of Governor's that has been transformed into Far East Bar & Restaurant, an "Asian fusion" spot that mixes Hmong, Thai, and Chinese foods. It was there that my son Thomas showed up on a slightly rainy Friday night.



Steve Trimble

Tom Trimble tries the Ox Tail Pho at Far East Bar & Restaurant.

The interior looks a lot like the former spot. It is still comprised of three separate but connected rooms – a dining area with the inherited booths, a middle room with a dance floor and karaoke set-up, and a bar area. There is also a room with one long table and chairs that is reserved for groups of 10.

The dining room has seven

booths and several tables, some artwork, and one exposed brick wall. The middle room is mostly an open wood floor. The bar room has a large vintage rectangular bar, as well as some chairs and booths, and several electronic games.

The menu is varied. Appetizers include the usual things like wings, as well as more unique items like fried chicken feet, and "curly ears," which are fried pig's ears. There is papaya salad, noodle soup, and six different types of pho.

Some main dishes include spare ribs, Hmong sausage, stir fry, fried rice, a Thai curry burger, Pad Thai, and chow fun noodles. House specials include half duck in ginger garlic sauce, and savory short ribs. There are also several sea food dishes including spicy catfish, fried calamari, and Asian Cajun prawn.

Dessert options include a fried banana roll, and nab vam, a tri-colored Hmong tapioca dessert.

Drinks include soft drinks, Thai iced tea and Vietnamese Coffee.

You may order beer and wine from the bar area after 5:00 p.m. and have it at your table. After the regular hours of full service, the restaurant serves "finger food" until closing.

My son, who accompanied me on this leg of the trek, decided on the Hmong Ox Tail Pho, which he had never tasted during his lengthy employment in restaurants. Being a bit less adventuresome, I stuck with one of my usual Asian food favorites and ordered the Pad Thai.

The owner of this new establishment is Som Lee, who lives on the

East Side. Lee has other properties, but this is his first venture into food service. He did a lot of research into recipes and his family favorites. He wanted to be a family friendly place and on the weekends – even having a dress code which, for instance, doesn't allow sagging pants.

The restaurant does not take reservations but does accept credit cards. Karaoke is usually on Thursday and Friday.

A large sign on the outside of the buildings declares that Hmong Ox Tail Pho is one of Far East's specialties. It is available Tuesday-Sunday. At the bottom of the sign for the pho, you'll notice the saying "Come get Som!" Get it? The owner's first name is Som.



Have Forum, will travel... The Pomrenke family hit the Appalachian Trail in Virginia and brought along their favorite neighborhood newspaper. Pictured from left to right are Lee Ann, Vikta, Greta, and Stefan Pomrenke.

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.



Where in Dayton's Bluff?

Email editor@daytonsbuff.org with the location of this neighborhood curiosity for a chance to win some great prizes from local businesses. The reader who submits the first correct entry will be notified and the winner will be announced in the December Forum.

We have a winner! Where in Dayton's Bluff?

Congratulations to Forum reader, Myiesha Banks. Myiesha correctly named the location of last month's photo: Le Painter, at 744 East 3rd Street.

Myiesha will receive four passes to see Gridiron Glory, on view at the Minnesota History Center.

Watch upcoming issues of the Forum for more chances to win!

Many thanks to our 2016 donors:

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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 \$1,362.29 – Will you help us?

Sincerely,
The Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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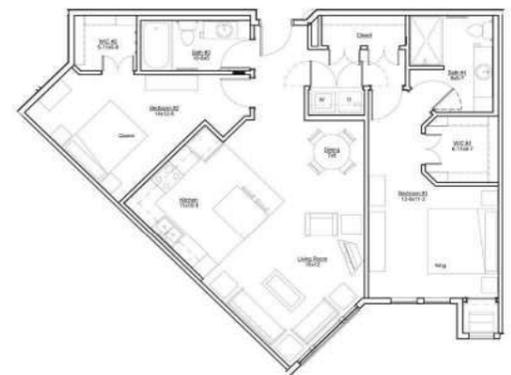
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