Goats invade Dayton's Bluff

Greg Cosimini  Forum Staff

The battle against buckthorn and other invasive plants has been fought by humans for years with only partial success. Finally we are getting help from another species that inhabits this planet with great success. The plan was to deploy 30 goats in Indian Mounds Regional Park on May 1. But this being Minnesota, it was cold and snowy that day so their deployment was delayed until May 2nd when the weather was more spring like. The goats, provided by Goat Dis-patch of Fairbault, marched out of their trailer and went right to work munching on buckthorn because goats love buckthorn. Who knew?

Their temporary new home is a gigantic fenced-in area on the bluffs located near the picnic area, east of the pavilion. There are actually two metal fences, the inner one being electrified to keep the goats in and humans out. The wedge-shaped area extends all the way down towards Warner Road.

All went well for a few days until four humans with less sense than a barnyard animal decided to release the goats and take one hostage. Their intentions were not known but it didn't matter because the St. Paul police captured them almost immediately after a brief high-speed chase through Dayton's Bluff. Gordy the goat was rescued seemingly none the worse for his adventure. However he was taken back to the farm for a little rest and recreation. His owners decided Gordy may not be cut out for urban life and will send him instead to a more rural setting, possibly near Rochester. The rest of the goats didn't wander far and were returned to their enclosure.

The length of the goats’ stay depends on how quickly they clear the area of invasive plants. After two weeks, there was still plenty of buckthorn remaining so it appears they will be around at least until the end of May and possibly well into June. After project managers evaluate their success, the goats could return later this year or next.

Despite the abundance of wildlife in the Mounds Park area including bald eagles, hawks, deer, and a variety of other varmints, the goats instantly became a major attraction. They often come to the top of the bluff for water and to pose for photos. Hint: try to stay upwind from them. They are checked and tended to several times a day while the police, city employees and interested citizens patrol the area to make sure all is well.

The goat project is a joint undertaking of the City of St. Paul, St. Paul Parks and Recreation, and the Great River Passage. Funding is provided by the Department of Natural Resources - Conservation Partners Legacy Grant Program, part of the Lessard-Sams Outdoor Heritage Program.

Greg Cosimini can be reached at editor@dayton bluff.org.

Another successful Minneapolis and Saint Paul Home Tour is history!

Karin DuPaul  Forum Staff

Hundreds of people toured seven homes in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood April 29 and 30. Visitors included Dayton's Bluff residents as well as people from all over the metro area and beyond. Many visitors come back to Dayton’s Bluff year after year to see the neighborhood’s charming homes and visit with our wonderful residents.

This year, the tour featured a variety of house styles and sizes. Visitors admired beautiful woodwork, large-scale home restorations, and beautiful new kitchens, among other new and period features. Many people are already looking forward to next year’s tour.

At the end of the tour, an “After the Home Tour” party for owners of homes on the tour and home tour neighborhood ambassadors (volunteers) was held at Saint John’s Lutheran Church. There was good conversation and food donated by local East Side establishments. Over 30 neighborhood ambassadors helped make the tour run smoothly; thanks go out to those volunteers — some who help every year — and to the home owners who opened their homes for the tour. A special thank you to the Stutzman Group of Dayton’s Bluff for letting us use their conference room for the “before the home tour meeting” and Saint John’s Lutheran Church for hosting the after party. We also want to say thanks for the delicious food donated by Yaruss Brothers, Obb’s Sports Bar and Grill, Culver’s, Ward 6, Mississippi Market, and Cub Foods. And thanks to the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council for participating in the Minneapolis and Saint Paul Home Tour each year.

Now the search picks up again for homes for the 2018 home tour and for more home tour neighborhood ambassadors. If you are interested in having your home on the tour, know about a house that should be on the home tour, or want to become a home tour neighborhood ambassador, email karindupaul@comcast.net or call 651-776-0550. See you in 2018!
Dayton's Bluff Take-a-Hike

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, June 10. 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.

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 Gardener Apartments located at 892 Madison Road, on Wednesdays, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

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, June 7, at 6:30 p.m. Email karindupaul@swedehol-low.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, June 6, at 1:00 p.m., at Swede Hollow Cafe (725 E. 7th Street). Call 651-776-0550 or email editor@daytonsbuzz.org for more information.

Police Community Meetings

The Eastern District Saint Paul 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, June 21, at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Meetings are intended as a time to listen and address concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

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 beneficien 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. Su personal bilingüe le facilitará 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.

June at the East Side Freedom Library

Thursday, June 1, at 7:00 p.m., Sing Harmony, Hungry Hearts! Gather together to use your voice to sing your favorite spiritual and wedding songs at the East Side Freedom Library's (ESFL) monthly song circle. This is not a performance and no vocal training or song knowledge is required. Come to sing with your neighbors!

Tuesday, June 6, at 7:00 p.m., the ESFL invites you to a free screening of the film A Brief Vacation, a 1973 dramatic film based on the premise that "sickness is the vacation of the poor." Clara, a factory worker, collapses with a lung disease which lands her in a sanatorium in the mountains where she rediscovers herself. This event is free and co-sponsored by AFSCME Local 3800 and the St. Paul Regional Labor Federation.

Special treat: After the film and discussion, Ward 6 (858 Payne Avenue) invites you to enjoy happy hour pricing on drinks ($4 for draft beers, selected wines, and rail drinks) in the great tradi-

tion of labor fidelity and solidarity.

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

Business Classes

The Dayton’s Bluff Neighborhood Entrepreneur Class helps start and grow small businesses on the East Side.

Classes last eight weeks and include operations management, marketing, finances, management, and 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.

Courses are conducted 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.

East Side Elders presents Elder Cafe: You Don’t have to be a Celebrity to Find Interesting Ancestors

Thursday, June 8, from noon to 2:00 p.m. at First Lutheran Church, 463 Marine Street. Dayton’s Bluff Elders presents Elder Cafe: You Don’t Have to be a Celebrity to find interesting Ances-

tors. Join the East Side Elders as Certified Genealogist, Jay Fronkert, takes you through a five-step plan to get started on creating a family tree while enjoying a delicious meal and engaging conversa-

tion. Call 651-683-2326 to make a reserva-

tion or to request a ride. Elder Cafe can’t not 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. This event is presented in partnership between East Side Elders and First Luther-

ian Church of Dayton’s Bluff.

Ramsey County hiring lifeguards

Ramsey County Parks & Recreation is now hiring lifeguards (ages 16 and older) for the 2017 summer beach sea-

son. Lifeguards start at $12.22 per hour. Spend your summer enjoying the beach and sun! To apply, fill out a brief inter-

est form at ramseyscounty.us/lifeguard.

Be a tourist in your own city

Take a Free Saint Paul walking tour from Landmark Center

Beginning June 14, and continuing through September, Landmark Center guides will lead walking tours of Saint Paul. Tours are free and operate on a rotating schedule, Wednesdays at 10:00 a.m.

The second Wednesday of each month, beginning June 14, the Rice Park tour departs from Landmark Cen-

ter’s Visitor Information Desk. The tour circles one of Saint Paul’s most iconic parks, and stops in the surrounding buildings which give the park its central role in city events and celebrations.

On the third Wednesday of each month, beginning June 21, the Heart of the City tour departs from inside Landmark Center’s North Lobby (6th Street entrance). This tour travels down St. Peter Street, pointing out some of the most significant landmarks and influential buildings in St. Paul’s history, including the Hamm Building and Mickey’s Din-

ner.

Finally, the Great River tour begins at Upper Landing Park (Shepard Road and Eagle Parkway) and walks along the mighty Mississippi. It highlights build-

ings and locations that tell the story of Saint Paul the city it is today. This tour runs the fourth Wednesday of each month, beginning June 28. All tours take place on the second or fourth Saturday of each month from June through September, and begin at 10:00 a.m. Space is limited. Reservations are required. Sign up online at www.landmarkcenter.org/visit/walking-

hikes.html.
**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 multicultural, intergenerational neighborhood congregation located at 1049 Euclid Street in Dayton’s Bluff. Sunday worship begins at 10:30 a.m. On Sunday, June 25, we’ll welcome our new pastor, Rev. Jay Jeong and his family. Rev. Jeong comes to St. Paul after serving as pastor in Lambert, Walnut Grove, and Sanborn, Minnesota. He has also served urban parishes in Seoul, South Korea. All are welcome to come and celebrate this new beginning!

**Week of June 12-17: Urban CROSS will be in action. If you need help with a project around your home including: scraping and painting, simple repairs, demolition, yard work, and landscaping; please be sure to call the church or check the website to submit an application for a project. Urban CROSS will be sending volunteers into the community from June 12-16, 2017. Registrations are due – please call the church at 651-774-8736 today! If you know of a youth who would like to attend Urban CROSS and help serve the community, please call the church office (651-774-8736).**

**Wednesday, June 14: Festival of Nations, a community-wide celebration to which all are invited will take place at Indian Mounds Regional Park at the main shelter house. At this event, all of the various nations living side by side in Dayton's Bluff will be celebrated, including: Hmong, Karen, Latino, Native American, Korean, various African nations, African-American, Chinese, and many more. Dinner will be served to all starting at 6:00 p.m. Among the foods served will be La Puerta Abriendo's famous tacos. Afterward, there will be a program featuring singing, dancing, and cultural presentations from the various nations that make up the Dayton’s Bluff Community. All are invited to this free event! Come and share this special cross-cultural celebration with others in your neighborhood.**

**Wednesday, June 28: Beginning at noon, Community Friendship gathering with hot lunch. Enjoy a hot lunch of chicken cordon bleu with optional caramel pecan sauce, green beans and new potatoes, salad, rolls, and dessert. Following the meal, Janet Eggge and Merrill Kemp will play the piano, violin, and sing together. This is a community gathering – ALL are invited to come; the focus is on persons ages 55 and over. A donation of $8.00 is suggested.**

**Library puppet show takes it outside**

Emily Ganzel
Dayton's Bluff Library

On Wednesday, June 14, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., the Dayton’s Bluff branch of the Saint Paul Public Library and Metropolitan State University are co-hosting Puppet Palooza – a free, outdoor family party, complete with snacks, face-painting, puppet-making, outdoor games, a hoop loop contest (!) and a live puppet show from the Open Eye Figure Theatre’s Neighborhood! The festivities start at 6:00 p.m. near the library on the west side of the Metropolitan State University Library. At 7:00 p.m., the curtain will rise on the Open Eye Figure Theatre's outdoor puppet production of Molly and the Magic Boot, a story of magic and imagination – perfect for the whole family!

Dayton’s Bluff library is located at 645 East Seventh Street, Saint Paul. In the event of rain, the show (and the party) must go on! And it will move to a room inside the library. For more information, visit spll.org.

**Minnesota's second season**

Nick Duncan
Forum Staff

There's an old saying that "There are two seasons in Minnesota, winter and road construction." Well, now that the winter of 2016-2017 has gone with barely a whimper, it is definitely road construction season. This summer it seems like everywhere you turn in Dayton's Bluff, or at least try to turn before being stopped by another detour sign, there is construction happening.

This abundance of construction and the closures and detours that it brings aren't limited to our streets and motor vehicles. Some key bike and pedestrian paths in and around our neighborhood are also closed this summer.

The Forum has compiled a list of some of the major bike/pedestrian closures and talked to the St. Paul Parks Department about the status of these closures. Here's what we found out.

**Fish Hatchery Trail between Warn er Road and Battle Creek Park.** This trail has been closed since early fall of 2016. The problem is trail erosion near where the trail meets Highway 61. This problem has been ongoing for many years with the city crews rebuilding the trail only to have it washed out again by storm run-off from the highway.

According to the Clare Cloyd, Public Information Officer for the St. Paul Parks and Rec Department, the trail will not reopen this summer. Cloyd writes to the Forum that "Initial repair work with regards to stormwater runoff across the trail and culvert repair will begin late spring 2017, but further geotechnical evaluation is still needed before a full repair can take place. The trail is not expected to reopen during summer 2017. A geotechnical evaluation is currently under way and further updates will be available upon its completion."

As a detour, the Parks Department suggests the following route which can be viewed at spice.gov/news/fish-hatchery-trail-closure-alert.

**Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary and the Bruce Vento trail head under Third Street Bridge.** There is ongoing construction on the Phalen Creek storm sewer tunnel that runs underground to the Mississippi River. The project's time line according to the St. Paul Public Works is as follows: It is anticipated that the phase 1 Phalen Storm Tunnel Rehab project will be completed in July. The temporary paved trails around the work site are planned to remain in place for phases 2 and 3 (ending in the spring of 2019).

The Phase 2 Phalen Rehab project is planned to begin soon after on September 23, 2017, and be completed in the spring of 2018.

The project required the closure of the Nature Sanctuary's parking lot but the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary is still open with parking along Commercial Street directly under the 3rd Street Bridge. The trail head for the Bruce Vento Trail is also still open, though it’s a bit hidden behind the fenced in construction site.

**The Maple Street Pedestrian/Bike Bridge over 94.** As part of the Minnesota Highway Department's major Interstate 94 work, the Maple Street pedestrian bridge has undergone some maintenance work requiring the closure of the bridge for a few weeks this spring. The bridge reopened in the middle of May, but construction seems to be ongoing with construction materials still on the bridge and detour/closure signs still waiting near both ends of the bridge.

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

**Environmentalists and the Maple Street Bridge**

As part of the Minnesota Highway Department's major Interstate 94 work, the Maple Street pedestrian bridge has undergone some maintenance work requiring the closure of the bridge for a few weeks this spring. The bridge reopened in the middle of May, but construction seems to be ongoing with construction materials still on the bridge and detour/closure signs still waiting near both ends of the bridge.

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

**The trail near Fish Hatchery Road is closed due to substantial erosion.**

Nick Duncan

Temporary signs informing pedestrians and bikers that the Maple Street Bridge crossing Interstate 94 is closed.

**Financial Peace University coming to Dayton's Bluff**

Jennifer Priebe
Special to the Forum

Looking for encouragement, hope, and change in your financial situation with other like-minded individuals? My name is Jennifer Priebe, and I'm a fellow Dayton’s Bluff resident. Please join me as I facilitate a Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University Class in Dayton’s Bluff.

The program was founded by Dave Ramsey, a New York Times best-selling author and financial advisor. It has helped millions of people worldwide to understand the forces behind their financial distress and how to set things right financially, emotionally, and spiritually. The average family pays off $5,300.00 in debt and saves $2,700.00 within the first 90 days.

Dave Ramsey and his teaching team will walk you through the basics of budgeting, dumping debt, planning for the future, and much more.

Classes meet for nine weeks starting in July and are led by Jennifer Priebe, a Dayton's Bluff resident. One Financial Peace University membership per family is all you need to get started in this class.

For more information, please go to www.daveramsey.com/tpu. If you are interested in joining my class, please contact me at price06030@hotmail.com.

**The trail near Fish Hatchery Road is closed due to substantial erosion.**

Nick Duncan

Temporary signs informing pedestrians and bikers that the Maple Street Bridge crossing Interstate 94 is closed.
View from my porch – the Cambric

Sage Holben
Forum Staff

Since early 2014, residents living in the area surrounding what is now the Cambric senior housing at 720 East 7th Street, have wrestled with the Dommuni- um presence. Issues addressed at that time included the mass and height of the building in relationship to the historic neighborhood, the installation of a privacy fence between 6th Street neighbors and the Cambric (finally installed last month), the installa- tion of traffic lights for safe pedestrian crossing (still waiting, still dodging traffic near-misses); garbage trucks and Mission Market semi-trucks making deliveries, entering, exiting, and echoing between residential homes and the Cambric; parking lot lighting - height and brightness (one neigh- bor’s interior is still “bright as daylight”) even into the wee hours.

Other questions had to do with potential tenant issues, which have since become reality: evening and weekend on-site staff unavailable to address safety and security of life concerns, since seniors, at age 55 (the minimum age to sign a Cambric lease) often have young children or grandchildren, what would prevent young children from living or be- coming long-term “guests” and the ensuing potential of disturbing older seniors whose intent was to live a life of quiet and peace?

AT&T and Comcast want to deregulate phone service: Be afraid, be very afraid

Special to the Forum

AT&T, Comcast, and the Minnesota Cable Communications Association are coming for your con- sumer rights as local phone customers. Be afraid. Be very afraid – especially if you live in Greater Minne- sota. These companies are asking the Minnesota Legis- lature to completely deregulate local phone service if it is provided by a new technology – Voice-over-Inte- rnet Protocol (or VoIP). They claim they shouldn’t have to follow any rules at all because they’re provid- ing phone service using this more modern technol- ogy.

But don’t let them or the word “Internet” fool you. You don’t even need an Internet connection for calls to travel over VoIP technology. Basically, VoIP is just a method of getting calls from one place to another. To the consumer, the phone call is the same if it travels via VoIP, copper, fiber, carrier pigeon, or two tin cans and a string.

And if you are a consumer, you couldn’t care less how the call gets to its destination. But do you care that calls to 911, your doctor, your friends, and your relatives are reliably completed. You care if the com- pany drags its feet on installing your new phone or if you have service problems and the company doesn’t fix them. You care if you go on vacation and the bill is late, you’ll still have a phone when you get home. And you care if you get bogus charges on your bill, you have recourse if the company refuses to re- fund them.

But if AT&T, Comcast and the other cable compa- nies succeed this session in the Legislature, all those basic protections will vanish in a heartbeat. Im- mediately, consumers whose telephone company sends your calls in whole or in part using VoIP tech- nology will lose those protections.

It would be disastrous for consumers if this bill be- came law, especially for those who live in Greater Minnesota, where the local phone company is the only cable provider they have.

First, under the bill there will no longer be a right to have phone service. It is expensive and unprof- itable to serve rural customers and maintain infra- structure. Companies will invest their money in densely populated, more profitable urban areas and distance in maintaining rural infrastructure. Rather than making more expensive-to-serve, less profitable areas – Rural consumers will experience worsening service quality and more outages as the system is allowed to deterio- rate and resources are moved elsewhere. Customers will not get their phones fixed in a timely manner and will have no recourse to lodge a complaint with PUC oversight eliminated. And we all know that cell service is spotty in Greater Minnesota. What happens when the only choice you have is a cell phone that may not be able to pinpoint your position when 911 calls are made?

Second, the protections against charging exorbit- ant connection or reconnection charges would be gone. If the bill becomes law, phone companies can shut you off for no reason – even if you always pay their bill on time or without notice if you are late. Companies can shut off customers simply because they are too expensive to serve and not sufficiently profitable. Who are these customers? They are older Minnesotans, people with disabilities, people on fixed incomes, and people who live in Greater Min- nesota.

Third, AT&T and Comcast tell legislators that deregulation will produce more competition, lower customer service, better service, more jobs, and Broadband for everyone. Beware of were-deregulated telecommunications companies bearing “gifts.”

Every part of their rationale is wrong. Taking away consumer protections will result in lowering the price of your existing telecommunications service; while customer service can only improve, decades of poor service won’t change because consumers lost their rights; the promise of more jobs is baseless – everyone knows they’ll be running and jumping in the halls or in the apartment with another’s expected peace - especially disturbing when they are paying out around $1,000 a month in rent and fees. Child vitality cannot and should not be totally buried, but neither should it infringe on the rights of paying tenants who signed a lease promising quality living and respectful if not peaceful surroundings in their later years.

And, hey! What is it with the robocalled ‘preacher’ on the weekends? Is this fervent religious gathering something HUD (Housing and Urban Develop- ment) provides?

AT&T and Comcast tell legislators that deregulation will produce more competition, lower customer service, better service, more jobs, and Broadband for everyone. Beware of were-deregulated telecommunications companies bearing “gifts.”

What is certain if this bill becomes law is that all your consumer rights and protections as a local phone customer will be in jeopardy. Phone, internet and cable companies won’t have to serve you if they don’t want to. They can charge a greater Minnesota customer more than they charge Metro customer. Es- pecially hurt will be those who just need a phone at an affordable price that works – like older Minnesotans (85% of whom still have the good old phone) and those of us who live in rural Minnesota.

As in most community situations, it is recom- mended that residents take a neighbor to neighbor approach when problems occur...talk with each oth- er to resolve problems. However, like many neigh- borhoods, neighbors sometimes take offense at being faulted for bad decisions or poor behavior. It is no different at the Cambric...and then the angry neighbor yells in your face or shows up at your door, telling you to mind your own business about his/her dog poop left in the hall, or the neighbor’s friend who was pounding and screaming at the out- side door to be let in at 1:00 a.m. ...all beneath your window last night.

Yes, it is its own little community...except it is 113 units concentrated into its own three floors on half a block – not all mature seniors, but families of all ages and dynamics.

Some residents are just fine with things as they are. Others have expressed a sense that their con- sumers have been brushed off or minimized. Perhaps that’s what it makes all the more frustrating when residents find their cars broken into while parked in a ‘secure’ parking garage, or the garage rent went from $50 to $75 dollars within their first month of residency, or the rent raised in the first year, months before their leases are up (yes, because it is a HUD building, it can be done).

Some residents, I hear, are looking elsewhere, or have moved. Apparently, what they were promised is not what they got. Dommunium received HUD and city benefits – residents got the shaft.

Sage Holben can be reached at editor@daytonst- bluff.org

Broadband is already deregulated – and there has been no investment. The Legislature has ponied up $50 million over the last two years (and more is pro- posed this session) to give to our cities to bring Broadband to Greater Minnesota. If there was money to be made private sector money would be flowing.

How exactly will taking away all your protections spur massive investment in Broadband anywhere, es- pecially in the rural parts of our state?

Want a glimpse of a deregulated future, with no Public Utilities Commission power to help con- sumers when they need it? In California, service has deteriorated and there are questions about whether people can reliably reach 911. A 2015 report to the National Regulatory Research Institute alarmingly revealed that, after deregulation, 11 states were deal- ing with problems of service outages and emergency service shortcomings.

What is certain if this bill becomes law is that all your consumer rights and protections as a local phone customer will be in jeopardy. Phone, internet and cable companies won’t have to serve you if they don’t want to. They can charge a Greater Minnesota customer more than they charge Metro customer. Es- pecially hurt will be those who just need a phone at an affordable price that works – like older Minnesotans (85% of whom still have the good old phone) and those of us who live in rural Minnesota.

Unless P.T. Barnum was right, the Legislature should not be fooled by empty and typically broken prom- ises, and should reject the AT&T/Comcast phone deregulation bill. And if AT&T and Comcast manage to push it past the Legislature, the Governor must veto it.
Dr. Amy Gort named new provost at Metropolitan State University

Robert Boos
Metropolitan State University

Metropolitan State University has named Dr. Amy Gort as the new Provost and Executive Vice President for Academic and Student Affairs. She will start at Metropolitan State on Monday, July 3.

As provost, Gort will be responsible for providing vision and strategic direction for the university’s development and delivery of academic programs and for leading the academic and student affairs division. She will also serve on the President’s Executive Council and the President’s Cabinet.

Gort has served as dean of Arts and Sciences at Augsburg University since 2009. She had previously served as dean of Arts and Sciences and professor of Biology at Concordia University, Saint Paul. She received her bachelor’s degree from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, and her Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. Gort lives in Apple Valley, Minnesota.

Her passion for teaching was evident during her scientific training as she sought out opportunities as a teaching assistant, research mentor, and adjunct faculty member. She is experienced and well-versed in strategic enrollment planning, determining budgets for new academic programs, and prioritizing resources to encourage enrollment growth. She has developed collaborative relationships with local community colleges to strengthen articulation agreements and contribute to customized transfer student curriculum plans.

“Our search for a provost and executive vice president was nationwide in scope and attracted a strong pool of candidates,” President Virginia “Ginny” Arthur wrote in an announcement to the university community. “There was a clear consensus that Dr. Gort’s outstanding academic experience, passion for student access and success, and affinity for our urban mission and communities make her an outstanding candidate for this critical role in our shared work.”

Metropolitan State University, a member of Minnesota State, is the Twin Cities public, urban, comprehensive state university providing lifelong learning, and competitive academic and professional degree programs at the bachelor, master, and doctoral levels.

Rep. Sheldon Johnson wants you to know about:

Volunteering for Saint Paul Parks and Natural Resources

Do you love being outside? Are you interested in learning more about your parks and the environment? Do you want to spend more time with friends, neighbors and/or family? Then you should volunteer today with Saint Paul Natural Resources.

They have a variety of ways to volunteer; from taking care of a garden, restoring a prairie, collecting seeds and to much more. Groups and individuals are welcome! We hope you will find a role that fits your needs, whether you have two hours or two years to give.

For more information visit: www.stpaul.gov/naturalresources or call 651-632-2411.

State Representative
SHELTON JOHNSON
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www.sheldonjohnson.com

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On Gratitude

Rhonda Battisto
Special to the Forum

One of the things I do to appreciate life more and heal more quickly is to keep a gratitude journal. In 2015, I purchased a beautiful journal to keep a record of all that I am grateful for. My enjoyment of this process has grown through the many months I've done it.

Each day, I write between three and 57 (or so) entries in my journal. Qualitatively dominates quantity, and the effects of thoughtful entries make a cumulative impact on my whole being! Consistent daily focus on gratitude is a powerful way to holistically self-heal. Adding entries to a gratitude journal before going to bed we feel calmer, more reflective, happier, and more fortunate; help to balance our mind, heart, and spir-it; sleep better and wake more refreshed. We may notice and appreciate people, animals, or things that made today easier, better, happier, or more beautiful (such as laughter, fulfilling work, loyal friends, kindnesses shared, healing practices, or time in nature). Appreciating efforts we ourselves have made to make life better for ourselves and others is worthwhile, too!

Each day fresh, with a new and positive clarity about what is truly important to us; start each day with an intentional focus on gratitude, we create a foundation for the day to discover more of what we appreciate and love; open our hearts to life and its gifts, gaining clarity about what is truly important to us; start each day fresh, with a new and positive beginning. We may appreciate basic things such as breath, being alive, a warm bed, the sunrise, or a new day! Adding entries to a gratitude journal before going to bed we feel calmer, more reflective, happier, and more fortunate; help to balance our mind, heart, and spirit; sleep better and wake more refreshed. We may notice and appreciate people, animals, or things that made today easier, better, happier, or more beautiful (such as laughter, fulfilling work, loyal friends, kindnesses shared, healing practices, or time in nature). Appreciating efforts we ourselves have made to make life better for ourselves and others is worthwhile, too!

My enjoyment of this process has grown through the many months I've done it. The benefits of writing in a journal were discussed last month when a local author talked about her gratitude journal. This month I’d like to share aspects of my gratitude journal and why I keep one.

My journal is a reflection and an ongoing record of all that I am grateful for. It is delivered to every home and business in the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood. Outside this area, subscriptions cost $15 per year and may be arranged by calling 651-776-0550.

Ed Trimble can be reached at editor@daytonsbluff.org, or mailed to the address above. The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum contributor Steve Trimble can be reached at editor@daytonsbluff.org.

Special to the Forum
Deadline for material: June 10, 2017.

East Side Eating – Trimble’s Taste Trek

Forum contributor Steve Trimble has set out to eat at every local-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 daytonsbluffdistrictforum.org: click on “East Side Eating” at the top of the home page. Steve Trimble can be reached at editor@daytonsbluff.org.

Magnolia's Restaurant
1081 Payne Avenue
(651) 774-3333

Open daily: 6:30 a.m. to 9:30 p.m.
Closed holidays
magnolias-stpaul.com

The building originally housed a White Castle. Some of the local old-timers remember getting hamburgers for five cents. The building was later enlarged and became the Radar Chef. It had a number of different owners until Dan Hanf took over in 1984, naming it after the street on which it sits. I headed there for breakfast with my next-door neighbor. We arrived a bit after 9:00 a.m. to experience the meal said to be one of the best. It is served throughout the day.

It’s a classic old-style East Side spot that has an updated interior sporting several examples of Georgia O’Keeffe-style framed art. There are two areas – the front with eight booths, several tables, and one very long table. There is another section in the back with several more tables. The interior decor also includes several hanging baskets of plastic flowers in the full windows looking out on Payne Avenue. It was pretty full at 9:30 a.m.

There are a lot of breakfast choices that include eggs, such as a “Western Breakfast” with two eggs on hash browns with cheddar cheese covering ham, onions, and green peppers. The “Lumberjack Breakfast” features hash browns with cheddar cheese topped with two sides of meat. There are also vegetarian omelets, and different home-made soups are available every day.

There are a lot of lunch and dinner entrees. Where’s the beef? There are t-bones, petite sirloins, and a Magnolia burger. And sandwiches galore: Clubhouse, fish sandwich, hot turkey or beef sandwiches with “real mashed potatoes.”

The Reuben comes with Magnolia’s “special sauce.” Kids can choose between macaroni and cheese, a grilled cheese sandwich, mini corn dogs, and Magnolia’s chicken breast strips.

There are daily specials and featured meals of the month that come with free pie. Some desserts are cream pie, fruit pie, and cheesecake.

There is a thrifty eight-piece chicken meal for take-out that includes a pint of mashed potatoes, a pint of gravy, a pint of coleslaw, and four baking powder biscuits. Magnolia’s also caters.

They have free WI-FI but I didn’t use it and talked to people instead, including asking our server questions about the restaurant. I had country-fried steak and eggs, one of my nostalgic-for-Emporia dishes. Instead of toast, a fresh muffin can be substituted, and on this day it was blueberry. My neighbor polished off an Italian breakfast with eggs and Italian sausage. Maybe I should have tried their chicken. After all, their slogan about it on the menu says: “If the Colonel had our recipe, he would have been a General.”

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

The many home-made pies featured at Magnolia’s.

Mounds Park Barber Stylists

804 Margaret Street, St. Paul, MN 55106
Phone: 651-776-0550 E-mail: editor@daytonsbluff.org

Monthly circulation: 7,000; available online at daytonsbluffdistrictforum.org. This publication of Hopewell Communications, Inc., a nonprofit organization, is intended to provide a forum for the ideas and opinions of its readers and to be an instrument for developing community awareness and pride. Signed articles do not necessarily reflect the views of the Forum. Material from this paper may be reprinted if it is attributed to the Dayton’s Bluff District Forum and to the author. Articles and letters to the editor are welcome and may be emailed to editor@daytonsbluff.org or mailed to the address above. The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum is delivered to every home and business in the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood. Outside this area, subscriptions cost $15 per year and may be arranged by calling 651-776-0550.

Board of Directors: Greg Cosimini, Nick Duncan, Kara DaPaul, Sage Holben, Steve Trimble. Editor: Jennifer Gascoigne; Associate Editor: Mark Gallagher

East Side in the Saint Paul Almanac

Steve Trumble  Forum Historian

Rather than do my usual Dayton's Bluff history article, I wanted to write something about the general East Side heritage as seen in the recent publication of the eleventh issue of the Saint Paul Almanac. The Almanac is a collection of literature, history, poetry, photographs, and art work that focuses on our city. Here are a few of the articles that deal with the East Side.

There is Home (p. 14) from Ashley Lee, a 21 year old woman who was born and raised on the East Side, but is now living in Oakdale. Her poem contains memories of Johnson High School and getting stung by a bee in her childhood house on Rose Street. This community organizer and actor looks at her mother’s illness and dialysis treatment.

Allegro and the East Side by Sandy Ci Moua, (p.55). The writer remembers an elderly Italian woman in Railroad Island who befriended her, made cookies and sandwiches, and passed away on Beaumont Street. When she eats Italian salami sandwiches, Sandy always remembers Allegro.

The Almanac accepted a piece that I wrote called Minnesota's Helen Keller: The Story of Vera Gammson, (p.60). It details the life of a deaf blind woman and the life she lived mostly on Reaney Street. Since I wrote a long version of her story earlier in the Forum, you can read it in the newspaper’s past issue collection online.

Rutherford Speaks, (p.94) is from Sherry Roberts, a mystery writer. While pregnant, she often watched two eagles raise their eaglets on a cam the DNR set up on “an eagle’s nest on the frozen bank of the Mississippi in Saint Paul.” I think the nest is near Warner Road. To Grandma Delores Suffering with Levy Body Dementia, (p.128) was penned by Donna Isaac, a teacher and poet. “Remember the good times we had on Magnolia Avenue,” she said. Donna often thought fondly of conversations with her Grandmother “which seemed to flow like yarn once flew between your knitting needles.”

The Selfie, by Amanda Linder, (p.158) muses about selfie deaths while watching a person with phone in hand walking on thin ice on Lake Phalen. Chia Loo, an artist and racial justice organizer in the Battle Creek area, wrote You Bring out the Mhong In Me, (p.176). Here’s a sample of the poem: “You bring out the Mhong In Me.”

The 3M Co., previously known as Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing, or just “The Mining” to older times, set up shop in Dayton’s Bluff in 1910 and stayed here for almost 100 years. Starting in 1962, it began moving a new campus in Maplewood but some manufacturing remained here until 2009. Now, the only trace of 3M is Building 21 which was recently leased to the Archdiocese of St. Paul and Minneapolis.

But for people interested in reliving 3M’s past glory or wishing to learn of its history in our neighborhood, an interpretive program was created on part of the old site. The program is actually a series of panels that cover the years 1910 to 1962. The panels come in three different large interpretive signs that portray broad themes and stories, and the smaller way makers that focus on the people and resources of 3M and their relation to Dayton’s Bluff, and site facts that describe facts and events related to the Saint Paul Campus.

The panels contain photos from the Minnesota Historical Society, graphics, text and a QR code that can be scanned with your smart phone to open an app that will provide additional information. The interpretive program was created with technical and financial support provided by the Saint Paul Port Authority, Historic Saint Paul, 3M and the US Environment Protection Agency.

A self-directed walking tour of the interpretive program should be started at what is called the Hub of Beacon Bluff, which is the name the Saint Paul Port Authority has given to the old 3M site. It is located at the intersection of East Seventh St. and Minnehaha Ave.

Do not look for a beacon or a bluffer than don’t. You will see signs and banners identifying the area as Beacon Bluff. It is also the location of a sculpture garden.

Start your tour with the large panel titled “3M & Saint Paul, History of the 3M Saint Paul Office and Plant, 1910-1962.” Head north from there along the area that used to be Mendota St. The 3M panels are on your left. They are mounted in various configurations. Continue down to the Archdiocese parking lot and turn right (east) on what used to be Bush Ave. The panels continue past the building all the way to the lot’s entrance on Forest St.

On your return trip be sure to look at building 21. It is an architectural marvel built in 1939 and was added to the National Registry of Historic Places in 2015. The rest of Beacon Bluff can be seen to the north and west of the parking lot, but as of now there is nothing to see but empty land. As you approach Seventh St. be sure to check out the various structures and plaques in the sculpture garden. These will be discussed in a future article.

Greg Cosimini can be reached at editor@daytonstbluff.org.

Two Dayton’s Bluff residents become Bush Fellows

Steve Trumble  Forum Staff

Recently, a new group of Bush Fellows was announced. These awards, given by the Bush Foundation, were given to 24 people to financially support them in efforts to improve their leadership abilities and ability to give back to their communities with further education and experiences.

Two of them live in the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood and were selected from over 600 applicants. Here is what the Bush Foundation said about them: “Gene Gergela envisions: A Minnesota where African immigrants play a major role in the economy. He wants African immigrants to build wealth and sustainability as they become more deeply engaged in the region.”

An immigrant from Ethiopia, he understands the challenges of and opportunities for building full economic participation in a new country. Under his leadership, African Economic Development Solutions has incubated numerous culturally specific businesses and launched Little Africa, a creative place-making effort in the heart of Saint Paul.

With his Bush Fellowship, he will broaden his knowledge of regional economic policy, build a local and national network to lead more effectively.”

Another recipient “Hassan Dyfan often reminds himself and his students that a thousand miles begins with a single step. A Burmese refugee, he has embraced determination and persistence in his own life and work with Saint Paul Public Schools. He is a passionate advocate for English Language Learners, serving as a bridge between newcomers and the school system. He is equally passionate about the success of his small but growing Karen community in Minnesota.

With his Bush Fellowship, he will strengthen his leadership and planning skills and enhance his network to better help immigrants and refugees become well-educated, prosperous members of their new community. He will pursue an Ed.D. in education leadership at Bethel University.”

Steve Trumble can be reached at editor@daytonstbluff.org.

Remembering 3M in Dayton’s Bluff

Greg Cosimini  Forum Staff

Greg Cosimini's article explores the history and impact of 3M's presence in the northeast corner of Saint Paul, including the company's contributions to the city's development and culture. The article highlights various aspects of the company's past, such as its influence on nearby neighborhoods and the importance of its contributions to the local economy. Cosimini also discusses the interpretive program created on part of the old 3M site, which provides a self-guided tour of the area's history. The author ends his article with a call to explore the sculpture garden and the various configurations of the 3M panels, emphasizing the site's significance and the importance of understanding the company's role in the city's history.
Have Forum, will travel...

Nancy Herther took the Forum with her to Washington DC, where the concierge at the Arlington, VA, Hyatt read it intently.

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.

Contest: Where in Dayton’s Bluff?

Email editor@daytonsbluff.org with the location of the neighborhood curiosity pictured above 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 July Forum.

Congratulations to Joanne Miller, winner of the May contest with her correct guess of the location in the photo: Margaret Park.

Many thanks to our 2017 donors:

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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 2017.

Our goal for the year is $2,000; as of this printing we have raised $1,340.00 – Will you help us?

Sincerely,
The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum

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

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Thank you for your support!

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