The numbers are conclusive: Bring back Engine 7

Jane Prince
Ward 7 City Council

In February, Dayton’s Bluff lost a vital fire resource serving the East Side. As part of a citywide redeployment plan aimed at better responding to emergency medical services, the Saint Paul Fire Department (SPFD) moved Fire Engine 7 from Station 7 at Ross and Earl Streets in our neighborhood, and sent it across town to Station 20 at Prior and University.

Given that over 80 percent of SPFD calls are for medic services, trading out Engine 7 for an ambulance at Station 7, as proposed by fire officials, seems like a good idea. But consider that decision in view of the cost of fires here. The neighborhoods making up SPFD eastern District 3 experienced $3.6 million in fire loss last year, compared to less than $300,000 or one-tenth of that amount, in western District 1, where Engine 7 is now deployed.

Last year, the city commissioned a study entitled “Delivery of Services Analysis for Saint Paul Fire Services of the Saint Paul Fire Department” by TriData LLC of Arlington, Virginia, with a particular emphasis on comparing service levels and response times in the city’s 17 neighborhood planning districts. Citing the impact of poverty, rental vs owner-occupancy, education levels, TriData noted that districts of the Greater East Side, Payne Phalen, Dayton’s Bluff were among those with a heightened demand for fire and emergency medical services, and greater severity of incidents responded to by SPFD.

The inequality in dollar fire loss across neighborhoods are dramatic, with the Highland Park planning district experiencing zero fire loss last year. In fact, the city’s other most prosperous neighborhoods experienced a total of $37,560 in fire loss for the period studied. These dramatic differences are even more stark when we consider that East Siders include a higher number of families living below the poverty level.

So what can we do? The best long term solution for the East Side is to replace the 78-year-old Station 7 with a new fire station to provide top notch fire and emergency medical services in Dayton’s Bluff, like the newly remodeled Station 19 in Highland Park. Everyone downtown agrees that Station 7 is due for reconstruction. We can all work together in concert with our elected officials to make that happen.

But let’s not give up on persuading Saint Paul fire officials to reconsider their decision – through the lens of equity – to find a way, in the near term, to bring Engine 7 back to the East Side. Engine 7 served residents and business here for 130 years and this is where it belongs.

Jane Prince can be reached at ward7@ci.spaul.mn.us.

Help needed for the Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour

Karin DuPaul
Forum Staff

The 2018 Minneapolis & St. Paul Home Tour is just around the corner and planners are hot on the trail for neighborhoods making up SPFD eastern District 1, where Engine 7 is now deployed. Engine 7 served residents and business here for 130 years and this is where it belongs.

Karin DuPaul can be reached at kardin@spaul.mn.us.

During the big storm on January 22, about 30 East Siders turned out to ask the Saint Paul Fire Department not to take Engine 7 away from the East Side. State Senator Foung Hawj, State Representative Sheldon Johnson and State Representative Tim Mahoney have joined our neighborhood in seeking to save Engine 7.

Gold Line BRT update

Greg Cosimini
Forum Staff

The Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit project which will pass through Dayton’s Bluff is moving right along. In January, the Federal Transit Administration approved advancing the Gold Line into the project development phase of the federal New Starts program. That means it will be eligible for federal matching funds. Total cost of the project is estimated at $420 million.

Gold Line buses from downtown will enter Dayton’s Bluff at the top of the Third Street Bridge by making a sharp right turn across Mounds Boulevard onto newly constructed bus-only lanes. These lanes will run next to Mounds Boulevard and the I-94 exit until they merge into Hudson Road at Wilson Avenue, where Hudson currently turns into Maria Avenue. Hudson Road will have five lanes between Forest and Frank Streets: two bus-only lanes, two parking lanes, and a single one-way westbound vehicle lane. Although it is often common to have one-way streets come in pairs, there are no plans to turn adjoining Wakefield Avenue into a one-way east-bound street due to the low volume of traffic on Hudson Road.

Metro Transit will begin to refine the design of the Gold Line in the coming months, including the Earl-Hudson intersection which will see some major changes. To aid in this, a Community and Business Advisory Committee will be formed. An application period of about 3 weeks should be starting in late February or early March. The St. Paul portion of the committee will consist of 10 people, two for each station, which means Dayton’s Bluff will provide six members representing the residents and businesses who are affected by the stations at Mounds Boulevard, Earl St. and Eina Street.

Greg Cosimini can be reached at dayton bluff district forum@gmail.com.

This is the latest artist’s conception of the future Earl-Hudson intersection after construction of the Gold Line bus lanes and stations.
Dayton's Bluff Take-a-Hike
On the second Saturday of most months, 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, March 10. This 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 and the meeting's location.

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 Thursday, March 8, at 6:30 p.m. Please note that meetings are now on Thursdays. Email karin@swede hollow.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 Wednesday, March 7, at 1:00 p.m., at Swede Hollow Cafe at 725 E. 7th Street. Call 651-776-0550 or email daytonbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com 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, March 1, 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.

SNAP Food Program at CLUES (Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio)
¿Necesita más comida saludable para su familia? El programa SNAP le puede ayudar. SNAP proporciona fondos para alimentos que benefician a familias de escasos recursos.

Twin Cities Mobile Market
The Twin Cities Mobile Market is a grocery store on wheels that delivers affordable, healthy food directly into under-served neighborhoods. The Mobile Market stops at Parkway Gardens Apartments, located at 1145 Hudson Road, on Wednesdays, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, March 3: Burlesque! Drag! Variety! We're ready to tackle your fancy at The Peacock Cabaret, a glamorous and hilarious burlesque show featuring seasoned performers and fresh talents!

Hosted by Gina Louise. Starring Ophelia Flame and a lineup of fabulous performers! Doors open at 7:00 p.m. Shows begin at 8:00 p.m.

Visit moundstheatre.org for information on upcoming events as it becomes available. The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson St., St. Paul, MN 55106; 651-772-2253; historicmoundstheatre@gmail.com.

March at the Dayton's Bluff Library
The following events will be held at the Dayton's Bluff library, 645 East Seventh Street, Saint Paul:

On Mondays, Tuesdays, and Wednesdays, in March, from 4:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Dayton's Bluff Library will offer Snack in the Zone, along with Homework Help in the Zone from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

On Saturdays, March 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31, from noon to 2:00 p.m., Maker Space in the Zone! Play classic games like Minecraft, and enjoy other hands-on fun in the Zone.

On Wednesday, March 7, from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m., join the Dayton's Bluff Book Club as they discuss their recent read, The Refugees, by Viet Thanh Nguyen.

Tuesday, March 13, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Teens Know Best! Teens have exclusive access to books before they are published. This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month to share opinions and pizza. Teens Know Best members are expected to write reviews of the books they read. The reviews are submitted directly to the publishers to help guide their decisions. New members can register at the meeting. Call 651-362-3873 for more information.

Thursday, March 15, from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., Puzzles and Games Unplugged! Learn how to play board games and jigsaw puzzles.

New! Check out board games at the library. The Metro State library now has a board game collection available to all. Library visitors can play the games in the library or check them out for two weeks. The full list of games can be viewed at http://bit.ly/MetroGames and all are available to the public.

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.

March at the East Side Freedom Library
On Saturday, March 3, from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., the East Side Freedom Library (ESFL) and A Greener Read Initiative invite you to Music & Movements: Funk to the Folks. Hear a presentation, listen to music, and engage in discussion.

The presentation will discuss music’s connections to black power, Afro-futurism, themes of liberation, and its long-term influence from the fabulous Afrobeat band Fela Kuti, to the trash, rebellious sounds of hip-hop by artists such as Public Enemy.

Presenters: Chris Bengtson is a local DJ and music aficionado, with a special passion for funk, jazz, hip-hop, and Afro-latin music. He has curated over 80 events shows online radio shows and Ed to DJs globally, and broadcasts bi-monthly on a French online radio station.

This event is free and open to all. Join us for a great journey! 3:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at East Side Freedom Library, 1105 Greenbrier Street, and 4:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. at A Greener Read Bookstore, 506 Kenny Street.

On Tuesday, March 20, at 7:00 p.m., the ESFL invites you to Meet Neighbors: Student Series, a three-part series of monthly forums centered around the stories and experiences of recent immigrants to the east side communities.

Saturday, March 24, from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m., the ESFL and the Minnesota Historical Society (MHHS) present Women’s Activism: Dolores Huerta.

ESFL staff has worked with MNHS’ Action Group on the research and development of an original play about Dolores Huerta, a co-founder and leading activist in the United Farm Workers Union.

This play and program will explore intersections between the labor movement and the women’s movement, between white women and women of color, and between labor rights and civil rights. It will also seek to generate a discussion about the past and present, the struggles of women in 1968 and their struggles today. Come enjoy the play and part in the discussion.

Are you interested in collaborating with the ESFL on events, media, and community engagements?

Please join us in deepening our program through participating and taking leadership in any of the following projects: Event promotion and evaluation, media, communications, and community engagement.

For more information, please attend our collaboration sessions on Monday, March 5, at 9:30 a.m. and Wednesday, March 21, at 5:30 p.m. Meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of every month. In these meetings, we will discuss upcoming events, the library’s mission and goals, and explore your own ideas about community programming.

All events listed here take place at the East Side Freedom Library, are free, and open to all. The East Side Freedom Library is located at 1150 Greenbrier Street. Call 651-230-3249, 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 Microenterprise Class helps start-up and young businesses on the East Side. Classes last eight weeks and include 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.

Let your voice be heard!
Contact WEQY 1047 FM. St. Paul East Side community reporter Cearah Hamilton of The East Side Vibe if you have valuable resources you want to get out to the community; would like her to cover your event, or interview your organization! Cearah Hamilton can be reached at cearah@weqy.org.

Wish List Care Packages
Did you know that you can help East Side Elders distribute food, hygiene items, and more to seniors on the East Side by shopping our Amazon Wish List? Visit www.a­mazon.com/registry/wishlist/3KK0O1 OG505JN.

You can have these much-needed items sent right to our office. From there, our team of volunteers will distribute them to seniors in need. So far, we’ve been able to distribute four care packages to seniors in the community – help us make a bigger impact and shop our wish list today!

Our wish list also includes supplies for fun and games, and office supplies. Thank you for your support!

The Smilin’ Cowboys
Thursday, March 8, long-standing Twin Cities party band The Smilin’ Cowboys will perform at the Minnesota Music Cafe, located at 500 Payne Avenue. Admission is only $5.00! Music begins at 8:00 p.m.

Local legend Bill Patten will open up the show. The Smilin’ Cowboys will go on directly after. The Smilin’ Cowboys will perform on the second Thursday of each month at the Minnesota Music Cafe.

Correction
In the February issue of the Forum, the Very Reverend Charles Lachow­itz's name was spelled incorrectly under the captioned photograph on page 5. We regret the error.
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.

March: After school programming for area youth, sponsored by the McVay Youth Partnership of Hamline University is an after school program for community youth grades 5-12, held at Mounds Park UMC on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 3:30 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. Students participate in environmental classes, Girl Scouts, field trips, and receive homework help and support in learning English. Contact Jane Krentz 612-581-6978 for more information.

Sundays: Multi-Generational Sunday School Class. Class meets every Sunday at 9:15 a.m. in the lounge of the church. This class follows an adult curriculum and has a participant age range of 80 years! Youth start in worship at 10:30 a.m. Following kid’s time, children aged 0-4 years go to the staffed nursery, grades K-5 go to the upstairs Sunday School room, and children grades 6-12 go downstairs for classes. Breakfast is served during Sunday School. The nursery is staffed for those children aged 0-4 years who do not want to start in worship. Please call the church with any questions.

Tuesdays, 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.: Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) Support Group Meetings. PAL is a place where parents with a child addicted to drugs and/or alcohol can find hope in a support group. PAL meetings are open to anyone of any faith or background, as the primary goal is to provide hope through education and support for parents dealing with addicted loved ones. Meetings are led by a trained facilitator. This is an open group to persons 18 years and older. Stop by any Tuesday, ring the doorbell on the Euclid Entrance, and you’ll be welcomed in!

Saturday, March 17, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.: Community Breakfast. Open to everyone in the community! Join Mounds Park UMC for breakfast with your neighbors. A free-will offering will be collected to benefit Dayton’s Bluff Community Services., a nonprofit organization of Mounds Park UMC. Help us help our community!

Saturday, March 24, 9:00 a.m. to noon: Glorious Grocery Giveaway! Doors open at 9:00 a.m. and food will be distributed on a first come, first served basis between 10:00 a.m. and noon. Pick up an Easter meal to share with your friends and family. There will also be an opportunity to meet, pray, and share communion with our new pastor, Jay Jeong.

Sunday, March 25, 10:30 a.m.: Palm Sunday Worship. Join us as we celebrate the triumphant entry of Jesus into Jerusalem, the beginning of Holy Week. There will be a palm procession with the children, so be sure to get there before 10:30 a.m. to participate!

Easter, March 31, 2:00 p.m.: Community Easter Egg Hunt at Indian Mounds Regional Park. All are welcome! Come hunt for eggs and take part in other fun Easter activities.

Sunday, April 1, 10:30 a.m.: Easter Worship. Join as we celebrate Jesus’ resurrection! Following Family Friendship Worship, all are invited to continue the celebration downstairs with Easter treats and conversation.

Need help with a project? Urban CROSS will have teams ready to help local residents and non-profits with projects such as indoor and outdoor painting, yard work, landscaping, simple construction, and clean up. You may submit your request by calling the church office at 651-774-8736. Project submission deadline is May 15, 2018.

New sexual violence support group offered

Chris Burns
Saint Paul-Ramsey County Public Health

SOS Sexual Violence Services has begun a new monthly open support group for friends, family, and partners of survivors of sexual violence. The group meets from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on the first Thursday of each month in Saint Paul.

For many years, SOS has also offered a weekly support group primarily for sexual violence survivors, but also open to family and friends. The weekly support group is every Tuesday night, from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. in Saint Paul. Contact SOS at 651-266-1000 for more information on either of the support group meetings.

SOS support groups provide a safe and confidential setting for survivors to talk with others who have been through similar experiences. Support groups are open to non-offending adults (age 18 and older) who are rape victims/survivors, adult victims/survivors of childhood sexual abuse, and secondary victims (family and friends of victims/survivors).

SOS is a program of Saint Paul – Ramsey County Public Health that provides 24-hour crisis services, information, and referrals. The program also offers support and information to individuals reporting sexual assaults or seeking medical care, advocacy during exams while receiving medical care, and help in filing a police report or with other legal issues. SOS counselors can also help sexual violence survivors with safety planning involving shelter and assistance with financial concerns. In addition to the support groups, SOS also provides one-on-one short-term counseling.

More information about SOS support group meetings and locations is available at sosramsey.org or by calling 651-266-1000.

East Side Elders receives 2017 Commitment to Community Award

East Side Elders

Last week, East Side Elders staff were thrilled and honored to receive a 2017 Commitment to Community Award from the East Side Area Business Association.

East Side Elders Staff are proud recipients of a 2017 Commitment to Community Award, given by the East Side Area Business Association.

Photo courtesy of East Side Elders

Like us on Facebook

CENTROXME SUPERMERCADO
OPEN: MON-SAT 8:00AM-8:00PM
SUN 8:00AM TO 1:00PM
818 East 7th Street, Saint Paul, MN 651-729-0129

PAY LESS AND BUY MORE. COMPRA MAS POR MENOS EN LA ESQUINA DEL AMOR.

Like us on Facebook

East Side Eldersreceive 2017 Commitment to Community Award
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Dayton's Bluff District Forum

March 2018

Little Free Libraries: More than books!

Sage Holben
Forum Staff

When was the last time you used your local 24-hour library? A Little Free Library (LFL), created and marketed by Hudson, Wisconsin resident, Todd Bol, has grown in number to over 60,000 worldwide since 2009. This from the first, constructed and planted in front of his house in 2008. Today, LFLs are registered with LFL and identified on the LFL map. Hundreds, if not thousands of others simply exist for joy. In my alternative neighborhood at 181st and Fort Washington, in New York City’s Upper West Side is an actual bookcase! Abandoned newspaper kiosks and phone booths have been multiplying around the country and kept filled as LFLs. Little Free Libraries pose as miniature, ornate cathedrals, country cottages, imaginative science fiction structures, and whimsical enticements.

I confess to always feeling a bit smug in saying ours is #935; the second in Saint Paul. (If you have one earlier than 935, please let me know!) Love it! Local Registration is not required for a LFL, but the relatively small fee puts your LFL on the interactive map and helps to fund LFL for those who cannot afford one for their neighborhood. I identified seven registered LFLs in Dayton’s Bluff, and with Steve Trimble’s help, four or five that are not registered.

I have had the privilege to experience some of the stories from the stewards of any LFL. Send your comments or five that are not registered.

A couple years ago, a librarian friend of mine told me the door was missing from the LFL in front of the American Indian Family Center. I no longer had my trusty circular saw, so I made a flake of double heavy duty plastic, a row of magnets and a duct tape. I drove by the LFL last week and the ‘door’ was still there. I now carry a staple gun, magnets, scissors, plastic, duct tape, with my hammer, screwdrivers, screws, nails, and black marker — in my car’s LFL fixit box. I’ve seen people use our LFL as a specific destination (from Arden Hills to Conway Street) as well as an ‘on the way’ place to stop. I am grateful to those who leave the remaining selections in some kind of neat order... but if stuffed back in, glad the door is closed. I thank those who replenish our inventory, whether by placing a few or five that are not registered.

I have heard many stories of visitors or neighbors who replenish our inventory, whether by placing a few or five that are not registered. As commissioner Ortega has championed are: Redevelopment of Rice Creek Commons (formerly the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant) in Arden Hills into a housing and commercial center; redevelopment of the former West Publishing site in downtown Saint Paul into riverfront residential and commercial space; beautifying the Green Line connecting downtown Saint Paul to the University of Minnesota and Downtown Minneapolis; the Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit line connecting Saint Paul to Woodbury; the Blue Line extending to White Bear Lake; and the Riverview Corridor.

While leading these high-profile projects, Commissioner Ortega has never lost sight of his key goal of providing access and voice to people who have felt left out, by simplifying a complex human services system and connecting people to education and jobs.

Sage Holben

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Ramsey County Commissioner Rafael Ortega Announces Bid for Re-Election

Ken Isso
Office of Commissioner Rafael Ortega

Ramsey County Commissioner Rafael E. Ortega announced that he will be seeking re-election in 2018. First elected in 1994, Ortega serves Ramsey County District 5, which includes the Saint Paul neighborhoods of Arden Hills, Dayton’s Bluff, Downtown, Highland Park, Macalester Groveland, Railroad Island, West Seventh, and the West Side.

As Commissioner, he has focused his work on protecting Ramsey County’s most vulnerable residents, fostering a strong economy, ensuring that residents have access to a great transportation network, and making sure that Ramsey County delivers the best service in a cost-effective way.

He has also been a leader on important projects for Ramsey County Residents. “With the help of my supervision and great partners, we are building transportation projects that provide people with better connections to jobs, education and the places they need to go,” Ortega said. “Along with maintaining a strong network of roads, we are investing in transit that allows people to get to important destinations and encourages private investment.”

Among the projects that Commissioner Ortega has championed are: Redevelopment of Rice Creek Commons (formerly the Twin Cities Army Ammunition Plant) in Arden Hills into a housing and commercial center; redevelopment of the former West Publishing site in downtown Saint Paul into riverfront residential and commercial space; beautifying the Green Line connecting downtown Saint Paul to the University of Minnesota and Downtown Minneapolis; the Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit line connecting Saint Paul to Woodbury; the Blue Line extending to White Bear Lake; and the Riverview Corridor.

While leading these high-profile projects, Commissioner Ortega has never lost sight of his key goal of providing access and voice to people who have felt left out, by simplifying a complex human services system and connecting people to education and jobs.

Rafael Ortega
Tales from the Bluff: Braving the Blizzard
Carlyle Slade
Forum Contributor

It was January 22, and of Mr. Winter was unleashing a blizzard upon the Twin Cities. Snow was descending, ascending, traversing, and drifting. It was blowing every which way and it provided me an opportunity to do what I enjoy doing - bundling up and braving the blizzard. In other words, I had to shovel. I had just begun to heave the snow from my side walk when I noticed a van stuck on the corner of my block. So, I galumphed over and greeted a mother with her four children. A sense of urgency sprang into my disposition. I had to get this van mobile and on the double. But as quickly as the van would get moving, it would stop and we would shovel. Then she would proceed to drive into the next corner. By the time we had covered every corner of this area, subscriptions cost $15 per year and may be arranged by calling 651-776-0550.

Not but a second later, two young men started walking over one another: “You can do it! Believe in yourself! I believe in you! You can do it!” I was impressed by the level of their encouragement. As a single man, it’s rare that I get reminded that children are always listening. I turned my gaze toward the back seat and said, “Your attitudes are outstanding and I believe you are correct!” I slowly rocked the van out and made it to a somewhat decent location down the street. At which point they thanked me, and I returned to my sidewalk to heave snow.

As soon as I cleared my sidewalk, I couldn’t believe my eyes. I saw the same van stuck in the same intersection once again. There were already people helping her out of this awfully redundant cycle, but I galumphed over again anyway. I found that the two young men who were helping her out were my neighbors. They informed me that they were walking around the neighborhood with shovels, helping anyone they could. This noteworthy gallantry gave my disposition a new tone. I formed me that they were walking around the neighborhood hero had stopped to help us out. We shoveled out a spot on the side of the street and parked the van. It was a triumphant moment among complete strangers.

Before I walked home, the mother graciously thanked me. She told me that she prayed for an army of good Samaritans.

Carlyle Slade can be reached at carlyleslade2@gmail.com.
East Side Eating – Tripleme’s Taste Trek

In 2015, Forum contributor Steve Trimble set out to eat at every locally-owned, sit-down restaurant on the East Side (all 39 of them). Recently, he has been visiting restaurants that opened since then. All of Steve’s reviews can be found at daytonsbldistrictforum.org under the “East Side Eating” tab.

Los Sanchez Taqueria

(651) 730-0032
1905 Stillwater Ave E
St. Paul, MN 55119

Daily hours: 9:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
facebook.com/losenchtasyqueria

This month I decided to visit a restaurant with two rooms connected by large arches. The walls are red above a white tile floor. There were some pictures and decorative plastic banners suspended from the ceiling. There are ten or so booths and a dozen tables. There are two medium-sized flat screen televisions.

You order at a counter and they call out your number when it is ready. Their leaflet says “authentic Mexican food.” Of course there are regional differences that might be authentic. In this case, the owner, Sanchez, came to Minnesota from the Morales area and many of the selections are clearly labeled Morales.

There are also three large posters of Emiliano Zapata, the leader of a huge peasant revolt in Morales during the Mexican Revolution.

Here are some of the dishes to be found: Appetizers chips with either guacamole or Swiss cheese, taco salad, “super nachos” and French fries.

Breakfast features Chilaquiles, served with two eggs; Huevos (eggs) al Gusto “super nachos,” and French fries. The desserts are fried plantain, cascard, tiramisu, and Tres Leches Cake.

Some of the “extras” are nopales (cactus leaf), pico de gallo, and corn on the cob, spread with mayo then rolled in grated cheese and sprinkled with chili powder.

The place was not crowded on that Wednesday. Five or so tables were occupied. During my time there were two take-out orders. There was light background music and everyone but me was Latino.

I opted for the Chimichanga, served with a chopped lettuce, tomato, and onion salad, topped with two servings of onion salad, topped with two servings of ketchup. There is no alcohol but several different soft drinks, so I chose to have a fruit punch flavored bottle of Jarrito.

They don’t deliver so to get their food, you’ll have to show up. It can be a little difficult to find the restaurant. Take I-94 to the White Bear Avenue exit. Go north on White Bear and you will find Stillwater Road the next street after crossing East Seventh Street. Head east for a few blocks and you will be there. However you might be able to taste the best of Los Sanchez Taqueria when it warms up because they have a food truck that roams St. Paul.

Steve Trimble can be reached at daytonsbldistrictforum@gmail.com.

View From My Porch: Bits & Pieces of Winter Sludge

Sage Holben
Forum Staff

Whenever I hear a restaurant customer say, in making a menu selection, “I’ll do (a hamburger, the chicken, etc.)”, I cringe. “Doing a….” was always more in relation to a ‘shhhhhhh’ sex job than a meal in my lexicon.

How is trust rebuilt in our district council when unscheduled board meetings are held without “proper notice”; when information is not shared, when communication between community and what is left of a board is lacking.

How do I trust police officers when I am told ‘my hands are tied; even with the info you gave me...’; ‘go ask your candidate/your city councilperson’?

It’s increasingly difficult to ‘see’ and empathize with needs of people who are homeless and do their best to ‘make it’, while staff in the university library or local fast food restaurant are being threatened, cursed at, aggressive by the person openly drinking alcohol or hovering over customers.

The responsibility demonstrated by the local drop-in center staff becomes laughable, marginally, since residents, library, and business employees become continually more stressed and concerned with safety.

And now the newly announced practice of our City Council that people who speak at the Council meetings will no longer be asked to give their addresses, only neighborhood. A detriment to this was very obvious in the case of ‘people against Listening House’ appearing at several public meetings. People who work or volunteer at the ‘drop-in living room’ were able to sing praises of the site. Yet unlike the neighbors who were left with few behaviors, human excre

You got somethin’ to say? Say it here!

The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum welcomes all opinions and neighborhood anecdotes – send yours to daytonsbldistrictforum@gmail.com.

Deadline for the April 2018 issue of the Forum is March 10, 2018.

6th Annual CABARET!

Karim DuPaul
Forum Staff

The 6th Annual CABARET! was held on Friday, February 2, at the Historic Mounds Theatre. The evening was a wonderful mix of singing, music, come-

Sage Holben can be reached at daytonsbldistrictforum@gmail.com.

Congratulations to Gudrun Gates, winner of February’s Where in Dayton’s Bluff?

Gudrun correctly guessed the location in the photo on page 6 of the February issue – Bethlehem Lutheran Church.

Gotcha!” was an accurate guess for the first clue that the month of February was a hint to the location of the photo: “Where in Dayton’s Bluff?”

February’s question was: “Where is Gudrun Gates at 5:00?”

On the topic of homelessness...not always a clear definition...setting out a call for help. A local woman is trying to get back into her own physical, still existing home. She is seeking legal real estate help, either pro bono or contingent payment, to contest a mortgage payment. She has proof of payments, mortgage interest statements as well as canceled checks. One legal connection referred to her mortgage as a ‘cloudy title’. I’m offering a very simple outline, and only real estate attorneys need reply. Here is a person with a home she cannot get back into, and she has become a victim of a system that keeps trying to pull her deeper. Please contact daytonsbldistrictforum@gmail.com if you qualify as a resource.

The CABARET! is a fundraiser for this coming year’s 9th Annual Art in the Hollow, the art festival in Swede Hollow Park (Saturday, June 2, 2018). The CABARET! and Art in the Hollow are programs of Friends of Swede Hollow, a nonprofit organization that works on restoring and protecting the park, celebrating Swede Hollow history, and hosting events honoring Swede Hollow Park and the surrounding neighborhoods. For more information about Art in the Hollow call Karin DuPaul at 651-776-0550.

Sage Holben can be reached at daytonsbldistrictforum@gmail.com.
My sister Jo

Rick Cardenas
Special to the Forum

My sister JoAnn passed away about two years ago and I miss her greatly. One of the reasons is because I would always use her as a resource; she would tell me when some did or didn’t want. Someone was born or we would just say “hi.”

JoAnn and I were together from her beginning. I’m now 50 and 50 days older. We lived with our mother, aunts and uncles, and our grandma who was dying of cancer, and she kept us close to her. Our “Gramma” made our oatmeal with raisins, a cinnamon stick, and butter, and it was JoAnn and me in a quiet and mellow time with our grandma. (We were so close to our grandma that we thought she was our mother, Jo and I, and that others with us for many years.)

Our house was at 613 E 4th Street on the East Side. It was one of many that were under or around the Third Street Bridge.

Our Gramma once gave us a peach to eat and I was telling her how fuzzy the peach was. I had a little lisp, so I said “fuzzy,” for fuzzy, and that is when JoAnn, my little sister, first started. She was right there, holding my hand. Say “Fuzzy, Ricky,” she instructs me. I began reading in a lifetime of loving peaches and Jo telling me what to say.

In the fall, the Bluff dances started and Jo worked on teaching me how to dance to the fast songs. This was a big thing for her.

and Jo working on teaching me how to dance to the fast songs. This was a big thing for her.

It was from Mounds Park, she told me there. But Jo, the girls, and I were out there.

To all those who knew JoAnn know that she was always a very social person and she liked parties, conventions, cai;

Some of my fond old memories of JoAnn are when we were out doing leafleting and picketing for Chavez's United Farm Workers. She would bring these three pieces, Lori, Candi, and Chris, to the picket line. These are some of those who knew JoAnn.

JoAnn jumped into women's rights because of her own and others’ experiences. She was one of the first workers at Women’s Advocates, and was one of the women to help create the Casa de Esperanza, a shelter for Latinas. She was an activist!

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and Jo telling me what to say.

JoAnn was always there for me. Politically, we traveled with similarCAUCUS and not be afraid to raise the politically, we traveled with similar

van Buren School. We hung out at Bluff play- ground after school and for much of our summers. I was there for baseball and Jo played on the girls’ softball team. I loved watching and cheering for her. She continued playing softball and even returned in the backyard pool into late adulthood.

In the fall, the Bluff dances started and Jo worked on teaching me how to dance to the fast songs. This was a big thing for her.

And Jo and I both went to visit Van Buren School.

When I couldn’t, I called Lori and Candi to decipher something she’d written. A few weeks before passing, I was trying to decipher something she’d written. When I couldn’t, I called Lori and Candi to help and it turned out to say “Where’s my peach smoothie?” She was ordering me around for one last time. I really miss you, Jo!}

Van Buren’s Last Photo

Steve Trimble
Forum Historian

I recently bought a photo of Van Bu- ren School on eBay that I had not seen before and it may be the last image of the neighborhood school ever taken. In my purchase, the original ornamental tower to the center of the building was gone. It was taken on January 19, 1975, for the Pioneer Press. Written on the back was “Swan Song of the Van Buren School as final reunion day was held today as many former students came to bid it goodbye!” A newspaper clipping of the caption read Van Buren Elementary, 275 Maple, almost a century old, will be destroyed early next month and its students moved to the adjacent Dayton’s Bluff Elementary School. An open house and reunion attended by some of the 42,000 students who have passed through its doors was held Sunday afternoon. The building was constructed in 1881.

Did you attend Van Buren? If you did, please share some stories that we could print in an upcoming issue of the Forum.

Steve Trimble can be reached at daytonbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Mounds Park Nurses and WWI

Steve Trimble
Forum Historian

The Ramsey County History mag- azine published a recent article The Ties That Bind: Mounds Park Nurses and the Great War, by Johannes R. Blaire. Since the hospital was located where today’s Cerenity stands, I thought people might be interested in this story.

American soldiers who were seri- ously wounded were shipped home to U.S. Navy hospitals for medical treatment and rehabilitation – twenty four of the Mounds Park nurses helped provide their care. They also had to deal with the worldwide influenza pandemic in 1918. Some of the letters the nurses sent home form the basis of the article.

Anna Marie Dahlby and Anna Rosalie Olson, who was called Rose, both wrote providing insights into their experiences. Anna Dahlby was sent to Portsmouth Naval Station in Norfolk, Virginia, as a navy nurse. In a letter to her family in St. Paul, she confessed to feeling homesick but added, “I am so happy and content as can be. I am so glad I am in service and shall surely never regret that I entered.”

Rose Olson was sent to the Great Lakes Naval Station in Illinois. She wrote about remarks of the nursing superintendent. “When she heard I was from Mounds Park, she told me our nurses were some, if not, the very best they had. She spoke highly of them… so I am sure glad I belong to them.” Anna grew fond of navy slang: I am getting to be a regular sailor, at least in my grammar. When patients are too noisy, we say “Pipe down!... It all sounded very funny to me at first... but it does not take long to get used to things.”

Rose observed “We are admitting more and more Marines and it makes one’s heart sick to see some of them, especially young, live of the shell shocked, or gassed.” When Rose found out the fate of Esther Kirbach, another Mounds Hospital volunteer, she said “Just learned today that Kirbach is gone. It surely makes us wonder who goes next.”

On November 18, Anna Dahlby came down with influenza and bronchial pneumonia set in. She died two days before Thanksgiving. After a formal naval ceremony, her body was shipped home for burial. A private service in St. Paul was followed by burial in Union Cemetery.

Rose provided details of new poli- cies to ensure nurses’ well-being. “Each one of us has to have our temp and pulse taken every day by a supervisor nurse... So many nurses work and have fever and they try to work it off and then they suddenly collapse and nothing can be done.”

Rose survived the flu epidemic. The Nurses group created a plaque as well. “In honor of our nursing mentor in the form of a nursing scholarship named in the honor of Anna Dahlby and Esther Kirbach. To read the entire artic- le, put rchs.com in your search engine then click on “Publishing” and then click on “ Magazine.” Scroll down to “Past Articles & Back Is- sues” and click on Volume 52, Num- ber 1: Spring 2017.

Steve Trimble can be reached at daytonbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Dayton’s Bluff Women’s History Walk

Steve Trimble
Forum Historian

Last year there was a two page arti- cle in the Forum that was a walking tour of some important spots where lo- cal woman lived or worked. It was de- signed to allow people to start out at the Swede Hollow Café, read direc- tions, read stories, walk in a big circle, and then click on the starting point. It includes attorneys, teachers, architects, television stars, business owners, Ger- man, Hmong, and Latino activists, nurses, pioneers and military figures to name a few.

Rather than re-print the entire article please read the on-line version. To see it, go to daytonbluffdistrictforum.org and click on “Past Issues.” Then go to the March 2017 issue. Call a friend or two and celebrate Women’s History Month with a stroll through the neigh- borhood’s history.
David Lyons keeps his travel companion up to date on what’s happening in Dayton’s Bluff while visiting Cuba.

Several readers send us pictures of themselves reading our newspaper on their travels. If you’d like to do the same, please email photos to daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Friends of the Forum

Dear Reader,

The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum has been a volunteer-run newspaper since the 1980s 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 below. 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 2018. Our goal for the new year is $3,000; thanks to readers like you, we raised $2,250.00 in 2017 – will you help us reach our goal in 2018?

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!

Many thanks to our 2018 donors:

Cliff Carey
Dick & Regina Mccarthy
Larry Meuwissen & Joyce Maddox

Mark Cosimini and Mary Block read the Dayton’s Bluff District Forum near the Eiffel Tower in Paris, France. Au courant!

Have Forum, will travel...

Greg Cosimini

The private jets of the rich and famous lined up at Holman Field in St. Paul during the Super Bowl, held at U.S. Bank Stadium in Minneapolis. No word on if any of the jets had a copy of the Forum on board.

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