Don't miss the 10th Annual Art in the Hollow!

Karin DuPaul
Forum Staff

The 10th annual Art in the Hollow is coming to Swede Hollow Park on Saturday, June 1, 2019! Join your neighbors for a day of visual arts, sculpture, and musical performance. Art in the Hollow will begin at 10:00 a.m. with a Mariachi band at the Drewry entrance. Arrive early to be a part of the procession through the tunnel that leads into the festival. There will be food trucks at the intersection of Drewry Lane and Beaumont Street. Parking is available on the streets and at Hope Community Academy at 720 Payne Avenue in the parking lot.

There will be dozens of artists set up along the walking path that wraps around the park. There will be music and entertainment all day on the Swede Hollow Stage, and the chance to talk with historians about the origins and history of Swede Hollow immigrant communities through out the years.

The TAM, a local social organization, and its literary club, Urban Journal, will be on hand, hosting an all-day spoken-word performance with open stage time in the south tunnel (the East 7th Street Improvement Arches) entrance at 7th Street and Payne Avenue. The event is family, children, and pet-friendly.

Visit artninthehollow.org or Facebook for more information about the four park entrances and parking areas located around the Hollow. Hope to see you down in the Hollow June 1! Also on June 1, Indigenous Roots Cultural Center hosts the grand reopening event of Hamm Park at Greenbrier and East 7th Street starting at 9:30 a.m., which will include taking visitors on a walk down the stairway into Swede Hollow Park to the Art in the Hollow arts festival. Hamm Park has been under reconstruction for a number of months. Karin DuPaul can be reached at daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Friends of Swede Hollow
Photo Contest: Photographers wanted!

Karin DuPaul
Forum Staff

Friends of Swede Hollow is hosting a Spring Swede Hollow Photo Contest. Photos must be taken in Swede Hollow Park between March 21 and June 20, 2019. Email your photos in .jpg format to karindupaul@comcast.net by or before June 23, 2019. Please put “FOSH Spring Photo Contest” in the subject line, your contact information within the body of the email, and if you’d like, the title of your image. Prizes are first place - $75, second place - $50, and third place - $25. Judging will be done by the East Side Arts Council. Karin DuPaul can be reached at daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Dayton’s Bluff
Community Council
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Steve Trimble

Saturday, April 20, was an egg-stra special day on the Bluff. Mounds Park United Methodist Church invited the community to take part in their annual Easter Egg Hunt, held each year at Indian Mounds Park. The big bunny himself was on-hand (on paws?) to give hugs and spread springtime cheer to Dayton’s Bluff.

Jennifer Gascoigne
Two Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour visitors stopping by 735 Margaret Street, a Queen Anne style Victorian structure historically known as the Charles Grew House, to see the property in the early stages of renovation. This grand home features original 1890s woodwork, an ornately tiled fireplace (in excellent condition!) and lots of space. This Dayton’s Bluff home was spared the wrecking ball and became a renovation collaboration between Dayton’s Bluff, Ramsey County, and the City of Saint Paul. Work began in August 2018, and is expected to be completed in September 2019.

Visitors taking in a previous year’s Art in the Hollow, processing through the Drewry Tunnel into picturesque Swede Hollow Park.
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, June 6, at 6:00 p.m., at Swede Hollow at 725 E. 7th Street. Call 651-776-0550 or email daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com for more information.

Dayton’s Bluff District Forum Board Meeting

The Forum is seeking writers and help with online content, idea generation, and ad sales – join us at our next meeting on Friday, June 7, at 1:00 p.m., at Swede Hollow Cafe, at 725 E. 7th Street. Call 651-776-0550 or email daytonsbluffdistrictforum@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.

The next meetings are on Wednesday, June 19, at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Meetings are intended to be 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 la familia? El programa SNAP le puede ayudar. SNAP proporciona fondos para alimentos que beneficien a familias de escasos recursos. Aun si no es ciudadano, si tiene hijos nacidos en este país ellos podrían califi- car. Participar en el programa SNAP no afectará su estatus migratorio. ¡Llame a CLUES para saber si califi- ca! 651-746-5346. Nuestro personal bilin- gue puede facilitar el proceso para usted y su familia.

Twin Cities Mobile Market

The Twin Cities Mobile Market is a grocery store on wheels that brings af- fordable, healthy food directly to your neighborhood. The Mobile Market stops at Parkway Gardens Apartments, located at 1145 Hudson Road, on Wednesdays, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

May 31 - June 2: Defy Gravity presents Circus Splendor Circus Splen- dor is a performance combining the art of contemporary circus with other art forms to push the boundaries of circus today. This all ages cabinet-style show is performed at the historic Orpheum Theater and performed by local circus artists. Join us and be in- spired by the strength and power of these amazing performers! Show times: Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 1 at 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, June 2 at 2:00 p.m. Tickets: Presale - $25 adults/$15 kids 12 and under; At the door - $30 adults/$20 kids 12 and under.

Saturday, June 8: Midwest All-Star Wrestling returns to the Mounds Theatre for MAW Live Season Finale: You Can't Take It With You. Kylee Jackson and The Real McCoy will be in action!

The season 2 Finale! The Promotion Cup will be decided as all six competitors compete for points and the Inaugural MAW Prospect Cup featuring The System, BJ Seestrom, The Maverick, Paul Virk, Damon Spriggle, Levi Cruise, and Jerry Ulfticher. Eliminations may be by pins, submissions, or elimination via submis- sion! The MAW Title Match will be on the line in a Ladder Match! (Card and talent subject to change.) And as always, Heel Turn Rollin' will be airing all the action LIVE from the Haunted Balcony. Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the show kicks off at 7:00 p.m. Tickets: General admission (in advance): $9 adults, $7; kids; General admission (at the door): $12 adults, $8 kids; VIP ringside seating (in advance): $15 adults, $10 kids; VIP preferred seating (at the door): $15 adults, $10 kids.

June 14 - 22: Desperate For Approval presents: Facility Six, a comedy by Mariano and Elizabeth Eccher. The plot is on lockdown. The military has taken over. The exes won't stop bickering. And somewhere in the facility, some- thing is waiting. Join Desperate for Ap- proval for a new sci-fi mystery comedy where otherworldly forces collide with the human condition. All shows start at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: $15.

Visit moundstheatre.org for more in- formation on upcoming events. The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1049 Euclid Street, St. Paul, MN 55106; 651-772-2253; historicmound- stheatre@gmail.com.

June at the Dayton’s Bluff Library

The following events take place at the Dayton’s Bluff library, 645 East Seventh Street, Saint Paul.

Tuesday, June 11, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Teens Know Best! Teens have exclusive access to books before they are published.

Vacation Bible School at Mounds Park United Methodist Church

Join Mounds Park UMC for a week of Vacation Bible School from June 30 through July 3. Hours: Sunday, June 30, from 6:00-9:00 p.m.; Monday, June 30- Thursday, July 1-2, from 9:00 a.m. to noon; and Thursday, July 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Vacation Bible School will be provided to all families on July 3, to celebrate the last day of Vacation Bible School! This year, VBS features the theme of Roar: Life is Wild. God is Good. Taught by a large group of teachers and high school volunteer teachers. Contact the church office at 651-774-9741 or visit sanctuary.mpond.org for information about these and other events.

Golfing

June 14: 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. The annual golf tournament at Dayton’s Bluff Golf Club is a fundraiser for the church. Contact the church office at 651-774-9741 for more information.

Vacation Bible School: June 30 - July 3

Don’t miss Vacation Bible School at Mounds Park United Methodist Church. Contact the church office at 651-774-9741 or visit sanctuary.mpond.org for information about these and other events.

Business Classes

The Dayton’s Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur class helps start-up and young businesses on the East Side. East Side entrepreneurs are wel- come. Class training lasts 12 weeks and includes topics such as operations man- agement, marketing, financial manage- ment, one-on-one assistance with creating a successful business, and de- veloping a business plan, plus eight

Twin Cities Mobile Market

The Twin Cities Mobile Market is a grocery store on wheels that brings af- fordable, healthy food directly to your neighborhood. The Mobile Market stops at Parkway Gardens Apartments, located at 1145 Hudson Road, on Wednesdays, from 2:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

This group meets on the second Tues- day of every month to share opinions and pizza. Teens Know Best members review books, discuss books they read together. The reviews are submitted to the pub- lishers to help guide their decisions.

Summer Spark kicks off on Wednes- days in June. Beginning June 12, Wednesdays throughout the summer will feature performances and other fun activities for kids from 3:00-4:00 p.m.

Don’t miss Mrs. Marvel’s Sandwich Circus of family fun presented by Open Eye Theatre on Wednesday, June 25, from 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Did you know that you can check out board games at the library? Library visi- tors can play the games in the library or borrow them out for a couple of weeks. The real list of games can be viewed at http://bit.ly/MetroGames and all are available to the public.

For information on these and other events check sppl.org or call 651-793- 1699. The Dayton’s Bluff Library shares its home with Metropolitan State Uni- versity at 645 East 7th Street.

Wisconsin Department of Justice

Help East Side Elders distribute food, hygiene items, and more to seniors on the East Side by shopping their Amazon Wish List! Visit www.amazon.com/register/wish-list/JKK0010GFO5PJ. You can have these much-needed items sent right to your office. From there, a team of volun- teers will distribute them to seniors.

With the help of supporters like you, East Side Elders is able to supply gro- ceries and personal care items to seniors in the community, at no charge to them. These items help stretch their monthly budgets and give them access to food and much-needed personal care products. Donations can also be dropped off at our office: East Side Elders, 463 Maria Avenue Suite 201, St. Paul, MN 55106. A printable wish list can also be found on our website.

Grocery Shopping

Did you know that East Side Elders can help you and your loved one with grocery shopping? Let East Side Elders take a chore off your list/3KKO01OGFO5NJ. You can have these much-needed items sent right to your office. From there, a team of volun- teers will distribute them to seniors.

Vacation Bible School: June 30 - July 3

Don’t miss Vacation Bible School at Mounds Park United Methodist Church. Contact the church office at 651-774-9741 or visit sanctuary.mpond.org for information about these and other events.

Monthly Grocery Giveaway

Join Mounds Park United Methodist Church, located at 1049 Euclid Street, from 10:00 a.m. - noon on Wednesday, June 22, to receive free groceries. Monthly grocery giveaways are hosted by Dayton’s Bluff Community Services in partnership with Mounds Park United Methodist Church. Come at 9:30 a.m. for coffee.

Annual Community Picnic

Join Mounds Park United Methodist Church on Wednesday, June 12, from 6:00-8:00 p.m., at Indian Mounds Park (across the street from Dayton’s Bluff). Bring a dish to share and enjoy live music and a treasure hunt. Bring lawn chairs and blankets to enjoy the music while you relax.

Brought to you by Urban CROSS, in partnership with Dayton’s Bluff Community Services and Mounds Park United Methodist Church.
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Contest: Where in Dayton’s Bluff?

Send your guess to daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com with the location of the neighborhood curiosity pictured below. The reader who submits the first correct entry will be notified and the winner will be announced in the July edition of the Forum.

Critic’s Corner:
A dash of culture comes to Dayton’s Bluff

Mozart’s opera “Cosi Fan Tutte” at the Mounds Theatre

Amerigo Vespucci Forum opera critic

Full disclosure: Yes, I am Italian and therefore expected to be an aficionado of opera, but truth be told, I am not. I would normally rather eat lasagna made with Velveeta and cottage cheese (which, for you philistines out there, is a bad thing) than attend an opera. I take great pride in the fact that in my 68 years I have never gone to a live opera or watched more than a few minutes of one on TV. I am familiar with some opera due to my father’s inexplicable fondness for it and my own fondness for old Warner Bros. cartoons.

Be that as it may, I took it upon myself to make the arduous three-block trek to the Historic Mounds Theatre to see Cosi Fan Tutte, an opera written in 1790 with music by none other than Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart himself, and libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte.

While music is universal, Italian is not. Fortunately, this production was translated into English and the setting was modernized to the present time. Cosi, as its fans call it, is considered a comedy and, unlike a Shakespearean comedy, is actually funny, often bordering on slapstick. Parts of the story seemed familiar because other writers have been “borrowing” from it for over 200 years.

Cosi was presented by Skylark Opera Theater whose raison d’etre is to bring opera to nontraditional venues in an intimate setting at fairly reasonable ticket prices. The Mounds Theatre provided a perfect venue. It has excellent acoustics requiring no electronic amplification for either the outstanding singers or the single grand piano that provided the music.

A thrust stage was built out from the main stage with diagonal rows of seats on either side, giving everyone in the audience an excellent view. The set was simplicity itself, consisting of chairs and tables and the grand piano. Many overturned chairs of various styles were strewn about the stages, obviously representing the unconventional and tradition-breaking presentation of this version of Cosi.

Cosi played to full houses at each performance with extra seats added as needed. The audience definitely didn’t recognize your typical stuffed-shirt opera types. There were no tuxedos or evening gowns in evidence but more than one flannel shirt was spotted. Everyone enjoyed the show, the likes of which hasn’t been seen at the Mound Theatre since Nelson Eddy and Jeanette MacDonald operettas were shown there on the silver screen in the 1930s and 1940s.

Even this hardened critic has to admit that he was thoroughly entertained by Cosi. He can only say “Bravissimo!” and hope Skylark will bring another opera to Dayton’s Bluff in the future.

Urban CROSS 2019

Eric Buck
Mounds Park United Methodist Church

Urban CROSS is a week of serving the Dayton’s Bluff community and surrounding area, and is hosted by Dayton’s Bluff Community Services and Mounds Park United Methodist Church. Each year we serve households and non-profit organizations. Projects include the likes of simple construction, yard work and land-scaping, indoor and outdoor painting, cleaning, and organizing.

There are many ways you can help us help our community. We are looking for homeowners and non-profits to serve. We are looking for individuals and groups who would like to work along side us with these projects. We are looking for individuals and groups who would like to help with the hospitality of our “campers.” We are also looking for donations of tools and supplies, as well as food for our staff.

This year’s Urban CROSS is the week of June 9-15. We’d love to have you be a part of it. Please contact Eric Buck, Director of Urban CROSS, at (651) 774-8736.

Photo courtesy of Skylark Opera

The ladies of Mozart’s opera “Cosi Fan Tutte” at the Mounds Theatre.

E-mail: daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com

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June 2019

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See Jane Run – Again!

Mark Gallagher
Associate Editor

Jane Prince is campaigning as an incumbent for a seat on the St. Paul city council, representing Ward 7. Jane first ran for the city council in 2011, and was elected November 3 of that year, partly because of her strong work ethic and her passionate voice for the part of the city she was hoping to represent.

Prince graduated from high school, she didn’t exactly know what she wanted to do with her life. “My dad was a lawyer,” she said. “His father was also a lawyer in communication and community relations and was the Association director of development at St. Paul Academy from 1989 to 1996. From 1997 to 2007, Prince worked as a service coordinator for the St. Paul City Council and from 1998 to 2007, was a Legislative aide for the City of St. Paul. She also earned a J.D. from Hamline University in 2007.

One of Jane Prince’s goals when she ran for St. Paul City Council in 2015 was to focus on the kids in Ward 7. In 2008 during the recession, the city had to cut back its programs for children. City recreation centers in Ward 7 and Ward 1 are the most multi-cultural wards in the city. “We have lots of new immigrants such as Karen, Latino, and East Africans,” Prince said, “and we have large concentrations of poverty. Also, it goes with poverty that there are a large number of families without a car, and so a lot of those families are relying on neighborhood recreation centers for their children to have a place to go and connect with caring adults.”

Prince feels like she succeeded because two of the three recreation centers are in the city and are now running well. She feels the number one problem in the neighborhood was the lack of affordable housing developed and creating affordable housing for low-wage workers is a really priority.”

“I have enjoyed being on the city council,” Prince said, “I believe in the city of St. Paul, and I want to serve the community together, and to serve the people who are here to create good jobs in our community.”

Prince is running a business consolidating its four Twin Cities locations in the Beacon Bluff Business Center at Mmeinhana Avenue East and Arcade Street. It is a Port Authority project, and that’s the goal, so 70 percent of their new hires must come from this area. Construction of the building was started on September 17, 2018, and is expected to be completed by July 2019.

“Baldinger Bakery just did an expansion,” Prince said, “and hired many people from the community. I think we have an opportunity to serve the incredible diversity of people who live here and help them be successful right in our neighborhood. The last thing I want to have happen is a displacement of this great neighborhood. I think the Port Authority said the development in our area is the largest industrial develop- ment they have done.”

Another issue Prince is focusing on is greater St. Paul is growing the tax base. “I think we have to grow our tax base,” Prince said, “because I feel like St. Paul is becoming a little bit more upscale, and that’s a good thing, so we have a lot to live who are on fixed incomes. I voted for the tax increases, but I think we need to grow our tax base because much of the tax burden doesn’t fall on resi- dential properties. We really need to grow our com- mercial and industrial tax base.”

“If that’s one thing I have appreciated that the Mayor is putting time and attention into fighting poverty. I think St. Paul is one of the last areas, and I can’t re- member when this didn’t happen. “I think we need to increase in poverty tax in our city. I think we need to be really intentionally about addressing that, and obviously we need to stabilize people’s housing, so that you don’t develop pockets of affordable housing for low-wage workers is a really priority.”

“I have enjoyed being on the city council,” Prince said, “I have been a Port Authority project, and that’s the goal, so 70 percent of their new hires must come from this area. I would like to work at our coffee shops. What a great job. I mean, I get to start my work week having office hours at the business for the district forum.”

Jane Prince lives in Dayton’s Bluff in the Mounds Park neighborhood. “I enjoy my incredibly diverse neighbors, and I love our great restaurants like Manana, the new Yellow Dog Café and the Swede Hollow Café.”

Mark Gallagher is associate editor of the Dayton’s Bluff Forum and a graduate of Metropolitan State Uni-

versity. Mark can be reached at refineEditorial@gmail.com. 

St. Paul Art Crawl on the East Side

Elizabeth Wakefield
Forum Staff

If you thought that the 2019 Spring St. Paul Art Crawl brought new visitors to the East Side, you may be right. This year there were multiple new locations as well as a few old favorites that popped up in the neighborhood. Previous locations like Indigenous Roots, the St. Paul Brewery (formerly known as the St. Paul Brewery), and Geiger Studios renewed their spaces as locations for artists to display and sell their work east of downtown. "We need to get these sites developed to re- 

Photograph courtesy of Facebook/Prince for Ward 7

St. Paul Art Crawl on the East Side

As you can see, the Crawl is a place where people can come and start their businesses. There are many people living on the East Side who have an enthusiasm for this community and to serve the people who are here to create good jobs in our community."
View from my porch: Shut my mind

Sage Holben
Forum Staff

“I’m not sure what is going on. Sean is failing in my class...I am not going to help him at all unless his behavior turns around, his grades improve...I’m not going to hold his hand. It’s time for him to start acting like a young man.” “Have you told him that face to face, one on one?” “Nope.”

This is a typical email conversation I had with the Battle Creek Middle School teacher of a young friend of mine. It is just one of the frustrations of several months of watching the child being yanked back and forth by Mr. ‘H’ who held the power to allow Sean to go on the 8th grade trip... or not. Apparently the school holds little or no oversight on this teacher’s management of the big eating. I won’t go into the management of the insurance and tuition fee; nor the lack of response from Joe Gothard, SPPS Superintendent, nor the tangible and ambiguous response of the ICMS principal.

SPPS web site states: “St. Paul Public Schools is committed to providing a successful middle school model that supports students during a key transition time in their lives. We believe that our young adolescents deserve a middle school experience that is developmental- ly responsive, challenging, empowering and equitable.”

There are people who say I am expecting too much of the schools that they are overwhelmed/overworked/under-funded. I get it. My son’s girlfriend teaches middle school and struggles with the transition of budget, cooperation, time, etc. What I am going to say here will sound so simple, some will consider me naïve. I am going to speak of one child, a 14-year-old black male. Some may say, after reading that he is an anomaly. I can guarantee he is not. As a sociologist I am aware of the many teen crises in our society, and in particular the crisis worker with victims of child abuse, domestic violence, and with runaway teens. I can guarantee that behind many doors in Dayton’s Bluff and throughout St. Paul, the number of children and adults live and struggle silently among us.

Over time, Sean has expressed his concern about safety – feeling safe at Con- way...I’ve talked to me in our ‘car conversations’ would just fall asleep in class. He had been Shouldering self-imposed responsi- bilities because of family chaos; he has heavy family situations – not getting to sleep because of family chaos; he has been asked to care for a younger, (possibly teenage) relative. He had become a safe place, a quiet place, a refuge. He sheds the hypervigilance he displays in the neighborhood; his body visibly relaxes and he appears less anxious or less on guard. In the car, he conversa- tion extends beyond immediate needs of food, sleep, or clean laundry. The morning he brought up death and dying, I suggested that living often takes courage; I reminded him of his inner strength; that he has shown in his living skills how wise he is - in ways his teach- ers don’t understand. He responded, “I’ve been through this before [unstable living situation].” He continued, as if picking up a story running through his head...my father stayed two years. With all the kids, my mom could have walked away...she didn’t have to, but did. His mom is strug- gling to make ends meet...and they don’t. His mom is a good person, a loving mom. Do his teachers know the life of this child? Would Mr. ‘H’ understand that my friend is already facing more of what many of us take for granted? What happens to babies is sometimes too much for even 14 and 14 year olds? That wondering if ‘home’ will be there after 3:00 paers on a child’s emotional make-up. Do his teachers know the life of this child?

We finally made it through the winter in Minnesota and that is probably rea- son enough to celebrate. Then of course this month in the United States features Flag Day and Father’s Day. As an anthropologist, however, perhaps I can get you to consider thinking about some of the celebrations in Asia, Africa, Canada, and other parts of the globe. Here are a few world wide holi- days in June:

June 6: Memorial Day is set aside to honor the Korean soldiers and civil- ians who have given their lives for their country. The largest ceremony is held at the National Cemetery in Seoul South Korea.

June 11: Independence Day in Uruguay is celebrated on the country’s independence from Portugal in 1975. It is also known as Dia da In- dependência Nacional.

June 18: Constitution Day is sometimes also referred to as “National Day” in Seychelles. The day was chose- n because it was on this day in 1993 that a referendum passed which made Seychelles a truly democratic, multi- party democracy.

June 19: José Artigas' Birthday Memorial in Uruguay, Jose Gervasio Artigas Amal is the national hero of Uruguay and is sometimes also known as the father of Uruguayan in- dependence.

June 24: National Holiday of Quebe- cre (La Fête nationale du Québec) is a holiday in the Canadian province of Quebec celebrated on St. John the Baptist Day, the patron saint of French Canadians.

June 26: Independence Day is cele- brated in Mozambique. This is the African country’s national day and cele- brates its independence from Portugal in 1975. It is also known as Dia da In- dependência Nacional.

World Wide Holidays in June

Temperance Brennan
Forum Contributor

We finally made it through the winter in Minnesota and that is probably rea- son enough to celebrate. Then of course this month in the United States features Flag Day and Father’s Day. As an anthropologist, however, perhaps I can get you to consider thinking about some of the celebrations in Asia, Africa, Canada, and other parts of the globe. Here are a few world wide holi- days in June:

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June 26: Independence Day is cele- brated in Mozambique. This is the African country’s national day and cele- brates its independence from Portugal in 1975. It is also known as Dia da In- dependência Nacional.
There are 15 appetizers including beef or chicken skewers, ream cheese puffs, edamame, egg rolls, Kimchi (Korean pickled vegetables), seaweed salad, takoyaki - deep fried octopus dumplings, and short ribs grilled with Korean barbecue sauce. There is a hearty selection of fried rice and noodle dishes including regular fried rice, pad Thai, udon noodles, and driedd pho, which is pho-flavored dried noodles served with meatballs topped with bean sprouts and peanuts. There are nine entrees and all are served with steamed rice. Some of them are beef bulgogi grilled with Korean barbecue sauce, chicken teriyaki, Chinese broccoli stir fry, green curry, and sour pork ribs - deep fried fermented meat with pepper kaffir, lime leaves, and garlic. Beverages include coconut juice, Coke products, and Thai iced coffee or iced tea. The dessert menu features three kinds of ice cream, tempura cheesecake, and tempura ice cream.

I decided to order Pad Thai with pork along with a can of Foco coconut juice from Thailand. It has tiny chunks of coconut in the juice. I passed on dessert, but might come back and try one or more of them.

I had a nice talk with Nkajunjxaw Xiong, my friendly and able server. She told me that the owner, Teng Thao, also has two other restaurants. One is in Woodbury and the other in the Uptown area of Minneapolis. My server lives on the East Side and is a recent graduate of Johnson High School. She felt that the fusion food was a good idea because the Hmong people have moved through many countries and have often adopted some of their differing cuisine into Hmong cooking.

There is parking behind the building. When you see it’s clear that years ago this was a drive-in restaurant. The cars need to navigate into slots that once had a call-in mechanism and there is a canopy over all the spaces. Any readers remember what it was named even before it became Romolo’s?

Steve Trimble can be reached at daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com.
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. Each issue costs around $1,900 to produce and mail, per month.

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 2019. Our goal for 2019 is $18,000; thanks to readers like you, we've raised $1715 to date – will you help us reach our goal in 2019?

Sincerely,

The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum

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

$100  $50  $25  Another amount _____

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

Name_________________________________________
Email_________________________________________
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Make checks payable to: Dayton’s Bluff District Forum and mail to 804 Margaret Street, St. Paul, MN 55106. For more information, contact 651-776-0550 or daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support!

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

Pictured above is Aaron Levine, reading the Forum at Tianzifang in Shanghai. Tianzifang is three blocks of winding alleys of old Shikumen architecture. It has been preserved and is now a collection of touristy shops, studios, restaurants, and even still homes of some local residents. It remains charming.

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Stephen Hurley reads the Forum in China, where he teaches for a few weeks at a university each year.