



Bluff Resident now at the Minnesota Historical Society

Minnesota Historical Society

A neighborhood resident was recently chosen for a major job at the Minnesota Historical Society. He is Avi Viswanathan, who lives in the Mounds Park area with his wife and three children. The most recent issue of Minnesota History printed a notice announcing that Viswanathan became part of their organization in April.

He was chosen to be the new director of Minnesota Historical Society's Department of Inclusion and Community Engagement (DICE). He has worked in non-profit public sectors for some time including being Director Community Engagement Institute at Nexus Community Partner in St. Paul. Viswanathan has also been active in the East Side neighborhoods, serving for a time on the Dayton's Bluff Community Council.

Solidarity Street Gallery

Solidarity Street Gallery

Starting **Thursday, October 1** and going until **Saturday, October 3**, the Solidarity Street Gallery festival will feature 15 to 20 exhibit sites along Payne Avenue, spread between Phalen Boulevard and Maryland Avenue. They will showcase a coordinated and curated set of art installations inside store-front windows, on outside walls, on the sidewalk, etc., featuring the works of artists who represent the diversity of our community and have a significant message to convey about solidarity, justice, and equity. Passers-by will be able to stroll up and down on Payne Avenue and safely view the art from the outside, while remaining socially distant. The festival will also include a virtual gallery of all the art works in the show, with many of them available for on-line purchase.

The 'SOLIDARITY' theme of the festival is motivated by the many-faceted trauma we all have experienced this year as a society, and as individuals. The intent is to create a publicly visible, impactful setting for a diverse group of artists to express their views and feelings on racial justice and equity. Equally important, the event is seeking to provide an occasion for the entire community to experience solidarity in a meaningful way, share personal thoughts and impressions, and engage in all-important conversations.

For more information go to: contact@solidaristreetgallery.org.

Donations Needed for Us to Print!

Forum Staff

The Dayton's Bluff District Forum staff is asking you to support our newspaper! Just a small donation can help us get our newspaper back to the printing press and mailed right to your door!

Your donation will go toward printing and mailing costs. We miss having our newspaper delivered right at your front door and displayed in the businesses on Seventh Street.

We are so close to meeting our goal and we know your donations would bring us one step closer to printing your favorite paper!

Great Horned Hollow

*Mandy Okonek
Forum Staff*

There are two new silhouettes on the horizon. As the sun sets in Swede Hollow Park and the golden hour fades to an orange-ish purple, pink if it's in a mood, two feather-tufted horned raptors make their dinner plans. They call out loudly to each other in a cadence of hoots. Their flight is mostly silent except for the occasional swishing of tree branches.

The pair of great horned owls that have made Swede Hollow Park their home have been hooting and hollering in the pine and cottonwood trees every night until dawn, but we don't mind. In fact, we leave our windows open because their late-night hootenannies beat out the other less magical sounds like sirens, planes, trains, and ridiculously loud orders at the nearby fast food drive-thru.

In fact, the owls seem to have a positive impact on our ecosystem by controlling the rodent population. I wonder if great horned owls eat small dogs? Our new winged neighbors have caused quite a stir on North and Bates Streets and many of

us have been sharing our owl photos as we find excuses to sneak outside during sunset and watch.

Friends of the Swede Hollow neighborhood have spotted the owls and shared photos of a professional quality on many of our community social media pages. All of my photos are silhouettes but it's the live action visuals of outstretched wings coming in hot as they descend the 80-foot hill for fine dining that leave me hooked.

I'm not an expert birder by any means, but I've been learning a lot about great horned owls. I appreciate their love of the sunset; however, I'm not so sure what's going on between them and the crows, some sort of blood feud. Like having a roommate who sleeps all day. Whatever their quarrel may be, the few times I've spotted the owls during the day is when I followed a murder of crows down into the park. The crows surround the owls and caw at them until they eventually fly away, probably to find some peace and quiet.

If you are eager for a live action owl experience of your own, head down the stairs to the lower hollow when it starts to get dark and turn left. The pine trees seem to be their favorite. Worst case scenario is you'll get to enjoy the sunset melt into the horizon and hear the frog jam in the pond. As far as 2020 goes, the odds don't get much better than that.



Tracy Sides

Tracy Sides shared these photos on the Friends of Swede Hollow Facebook page. The pair of great horned owls have been spotted in Swede Hollow Park.

Dayton's Bluff Take a Hike

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. 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.

Due to COVID-19, hikes are canceled. Please check back for more information at a later date.

If you have any questions email Karindupaul0@gmail.com.

Friends of Swede Hollow

Friends of Swede Hollow watch over, restore, and celebrate the history of Swede Hollow Park. Join the Swede Hollow community at their monthly meetings. We have changed our meeting date to the second Thursday of each month.

Due to the COVID-19 virus, there will be no meetings until further notice. Please check back at a later date for more information. Email KarinDupaul0@gmail.com or call 651-776-0550 for more information and the meeting's location.

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 **Thursday, October 1, at 11:00 a.m.** Due to the COVID-19 virus, the meeting will take place virtually. Call 651-776-0550 or email daytons-bluffdistrictforum@gmail.com for more information.

Police Community Meetings

The Eastern District Saint Paul Police hosts 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 meetings are intended as a time to learn, listen to, and address people's concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side. Saint Paul Police Eastern District is committed to maintaining and growing the quality of life for all our residents. Bring your neighbors!

Meetings are **Tuesdays, October 20** and **November 17 at 9:30 a.m.**

Email: robyn.brewin@ci.stpaul.mn.us for more information.

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

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

Aún si no es ciudadano, si tiene hijos nacidos en este país ellos podrían cali-

ficar. Participar en el programa SNAP no afectará su estatus migratorio.

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

Need 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 your family.

Twin Cities Mobile Market

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



THE HISTORIC
MOUNDS
THEATRE

Due to the COVID-19 virus, the Historic Mounds Theatre is temporarily closed and all events have either been canceled or postponed for a later date.

Please visit our website at moundstheatre.org for more information regarding the re-opening and upcoming events.

The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106; 651-772-2253; historicmoundstheatre@gmail.com

Dayton's Bluff Library

While the Dayton's Bluff Library building is closed, they are still offering resources to the public. Be sure to check out their family fun virtual events!

For more information 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.

Wish List Care Packages

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/registry/wish-list/3KK001OGFO5NJ to have these much-needed items sent right to their office. From there, a team of volunteers will distribute them to seniors in need.

With the help of supporters like you, East Side Elders is able to supply groceries 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 healthy food and much-needed personal care products. Donations can also be dropped off at East Side Elders, 463 Maria Avenue Suite 201, St. Paul, MN 55106.

Grocery Shopping

Did you know that East Side Elders can help you and your loved ones with

grocery shopping?

Let East Side Elders take a chore off your long to-do list! To get help with grocery shopping, call 651-683-2326 or email Info@EastSideElders.org with a detailed list. From there, East Side Elders staff will put a call out to their grocery shopping team and schedule a day and time that works for you and the volunteer for delivery.

Grocery shopping is a donation-based service. Donate what you can for the convenience of not having to head out to the store. Reimbursement for the groceries can be done directly with the volunteer—they will bring you a receipt when they make their delivery.

Volunteer with East Side Elders

Did you know that East Side Elders provided over 1,600 rides to seniors on the East Side last year? With the help of our incredible volunteers, we help older adults get to medical appointments, the bank, the grocery store, and other errands. Each ride helps a senior remain an active, vital part of the community.

As we receive more and more requests for help from our senior neighbors, we need to grow our team of volunteer drivers. Join our team by applying online at EastSideElders.org/Volunteer or by contacting us at 651-683-2326. Volunteer drivers have a flexible schedule and help out when they can, as often as they choose. Gas cards are also available for volunteer drivers!

Business Classes

The Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Class program helps startup and young businesses on the East Side. All East Side entrepreneurs are welcome. Class training lasts eight weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, one-on-one assistance with creating a successful business, 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. Some examples of businesses started by people who have previously taken this course include graphics, landscaping, photography, food service, restoration of wood furniture, art, custom floral design, and exterior and interior painting. The course is sponsored by the Dayton's Bluff Community Council and the Neighborhood Development Center. There is a small registration based on a sliding fee scale. Class sizes are limited, so enroll now. Please call 651-379-8432 for a current application.

Free Help for East Side Pets

The Animal Humane Society's Community Outreach program offers special clinics for pets on the East Side. The events provide free wellness exams, vaccines, nail trims, spay/neuter ap-

pointment scheduling, guidance from the AHS behavior team and St. Paul Animal Control, free pet food, and more.

For upcoming events and locations call 651-788-4685 or visit <http://animal-humane-society.org/outreach-services-frogtown-and-east-st-paul>.

Learn About Medicare and Help Others

Help the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging provide one-on-one counseling to Medicare beneficiaries at community partner sites.

Make a difference in your community by becoming a State Health Insurance Assistance Program certified Medicare Counselor. Help people understand their Medicare options. Visit Metroaging.org/volunteer to learn more.

Need Groceries?

If you are 60 or older, you may be eligible to receive a box of nutritious food every month from Second Harvest.

This box is part of a program called NAPS and we can help you apply!

Give us a call at 651-683-2326 and Rolene, our Client Advocate, can assist you with your application.

Some examples of what might be included in a NAPS box are: milk, meat, canned goods, peanut butter, grains, and produce.

Just a Call Away

Did you know that East Side Elders has friendly phone volunteers who can call to check in or just to chat? If you or a loved one would like to sign up, just contact us at 651-683-2326 or Info@EastSideElders.org. You can sign up for weekly calls, or as often as you would like — our volunteers are standing by for your call! During this time of increased isolation, you will also be helping our volunteers by giving them a new friend to talk to!

Financial Assistance

Increased financial assistance is available for Ramsey County residents who lost income due to COVID-19 and need help paying for housing costs.

Residents may be eligible for Emergency Assistance that can help pay for past due rent/mortgage, a damage deposit, or prevent utilities including water, electricity and heat, from being disconnected.

Go to ramseycounty.us/EmergencyAssistance for an application or call the Emergency Assistance hotline at 651-266-4884.

Yard Work Assistance

Need help raking leaves in your yard? Our volunteers are ready to help.

Contact us today and we will get you set up with spring cleanup.

Call us at 651-683-2326 or email us at Info@EastSideElders.org

Swede Hollow: The First in a Series

*Karin DuPaul
Forum Staff*

One of the early writings about Swede Hollow was by Mark Anthony Hoyt, who was home after serving in the Army during the Civil War. He wrote about Phalen Creek which flowed through the Hollow: "The Charm of a wild wood creek to me surpasses all other charms." He went on by saying that the "vandal hand of man" had already altered his favorite "wild wood creek."

The valley had businesses like mills and a brewery at the north end of the hollow and homes starting to be built in the hollow itself. The first group of residents to live in the hollow starting in the 1860s were from Sweden. As they established themselves, they moved "up on the street" (the Payne Avenue area). Next, the Italians came to America and in Saint Paul many of them moved into the homes in the hollow. Then they moved up on the street. Yarusso Bros. and Morelli's still have businesses on Payne Avenue. The next group that lived in the hollow were the Mexicans. In the 1950s the city decided that Swede Hollow was not a good place for people to live. There was limited indoor plumbing, etc., and the homes were destroyed in 1956.

Some of the ideas for the hollow included making it a commercial area, industrial park, a park for the people, etc. The nature park won out. The old Hamm Mansion site at 671 Greenbrier was also to be part of Swede Hollow Park.

The Saint Paul Garden Club worked with Youth Corps and other groups on cleaning up the hollow. Around 1970 groups like the Neighborhood Youth Corps built a rustic stairway west of the creek from the train tracks, (today the Bruce Vento Regional Trail) and a bridge was built over Phalen Creek. These steps were replaced last year by the Conservation Youth Corp. Neighborhood residents also did a lot of cleaning up of Swede Hollow.

Swede Hollow Park was designated as a park in 1976.



Brad Griffith

Pictured above is the new stairway in Swede Hollow replacing the old one from the Bruce Vento Regional Trail to the creek.



First Hmong Pro Soccer Player from East Side

*Seely Booth
Special to the Forum*

Twenty-year-old Michael Yang, who grew up on the East Side and was a former Harding High student and school soccer player, recently made history when he signed a contract with one of the clubs in the third tier of U.S. professional soccer league. He is considered to be the first Hmong to play professional soccer. The midfielder scored his first goal less than ten minutes into his first game.

Here's some of his story that began in the early 1980s where Tay Vang was a refugee living in France when he became an avid soccer player. It was a skill he passed along to his four children Michael, Brian, Maddie, and Chelsea.

"In the beginning we were just playing for fun. Father and kids to be together. In the end," Tay said, "what they achieved is something special. A lot of people don't see the struggle we went through."

Michael had a chance for a college scholarship but decided to go play with a semi-pro club in Portugal. After that he went to a combine where players were put through tests and he scored well. He is now with a fully pro team Forward Madison FC, which is based in Madison, Wisconsin. He has been noticed by Major League Soccer teams and may move up to higher-level teams.

"I would say the love for soccer is a big thing in the Hmong community," the Forward Madison player continued. "I'm really happy that people are supporting me, and I'm grateful that there are Hmong kids that look up to me as someone they'd like to be."

While saying that every player wants to move up and maybe win championships in Major League Soccer in the U. S. or Europe, he is working hard to get better. Michael added, "Right now, I'm just focusing on my next game."

Take Advantage of an Historic Opportunity!



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Change in Tree Trek

*Steve Trimble
Forum Staff*

While October might be a great time to walk around Indian Mounds Park and find out about trees, there has been a change because of the new fencing. Two of the listed spots—Number Three, a black walnut and Number Four, a honey locust—can no longer be reached.

Still, the remaining trek landmarks are perfect for Scouts or kids whose teacher wants them to bring in leaves. It's a mile-long path that visits unique trees, all marked with brown posts. If you put "Indian Mounds Park Tree Trek" in your computer search, there is this map that you can download. To the left, is a photo of the original map that can be found online. Each tree has a brown pole next to it that has information.

1. Silver Maple	5. Horse Chestnut	9. American Linden	13. Princeton Elm	17. White Spruce	21. River Birch	25. Scotch Pine
2. Crabapple	6. White Pine	10. Hawthorn	14. Bicolor Oak	18. Red Maple	22. Austrian Pine	26. Bigtooth Aspen
3. Black walnut	7. Eastern Cottonwood	11. Ponderosa Pine	15. Red Oak	19. Ginkgo	23. White Oak	27. Tamarack
4. Honey Locust	8. Bur Oak	12. Blue Spruce	16. Norway Spruce	20. Hackberry	24. Northern Catalpa	28. Norway Maple

Some St. Paul October Events of The Past

Steve Trimble

Forum Staff

Here again are some short pieces of fairly recent and past events of our city. Some are about our police, about how people were pushed away from their homes in early years. There is some women's history and information about the police and the gangsters who once flourished here. Sorry, no specific East Side Stories here, but if you like them anyway, let me know.

October 4, 2012: Garaad Sahal graduated from the St. Paul Police Department's academy and became the first Somali officer on this day. He said he wanted to bridge the gap between his community and police. He did have some experience with the St. Paul department as a community liaison officer and had previously worked as a community service officer.

Thirty-two year-old Sahal, was born in Mogadishu, Somalia. He and his family fled the civil war in 1994 to a refugee camp in Kenya. In 2001, he came to Minnesota by himself for better educational opportunities. He became a U.S. citizen in 2011 and said it was "one of the best things I've accomplished since I came here."

Sahal waited to tell his mother the news. But he worried about her reaction because where they lived, police officers are often feared. "Seeing our family and our friends being helpless with law enforcement back home, I wanted to do something to help people so they know it's not the same as the way we went through back home," he explained. His aunt and many friends came to his graduation, and Sahal sent photos to his parents, who still live in Kenya.

October 7, 1935: Amelia Earhart made a visit to St. Paul on this day. The city had a special reason for welcoming this famous aviator—she lived in it for a time. She spoke to the Women's City Club officers of the first National Guard air unit. They honored Amelia at the People's Church under the auspices of the Women's Club. There "the slender, boyish-appearing flyer told of her experiences and flights across Atlantic and Pacific."

Earhart's father moved the family to St. Paul in 1913 to accept a position as clerk at the Great Northern Rail-

road. The family rented a house at 825 Fairmount Avenue. Amelia attended St. Paul Central High School and was an excellent student. Her academic courses included physics, Latin, and German and she was on the girls' basketball team. She was there for only her junior year because the family moved on to Chicago.

In the winter of 1920 Earhart saw an air show, took her first airplane ride and was hooked. Earhart became the first woman to fly solo across the Atlantic and set numerous altitude and speed records.

On July 2, 1937, just before her fortieth birthday she attempted to fly around the world. Earhart and her navigator disappeared over the Pacific.

October 15, 1931: The Women's City Club's building at 305 St. Peter, designed by local architect Magnus Jemne, opened on this day with a gala reception. The club's first president declared: "Many of us had worked downtown during the war" and "we had no place to eat or talk. After the war... there was some discussion of it in an informal, indefinite way."

The 1000-member group decided to remedy the situation and built a Modern-style headquarters of Mankato limestone. It had an auditorium, a dining room, assembly rooms, dressing rooms, a library, an exercise area and bedrooms for members and guests. Member Alice O'Brien said that the building "reared in a tradition of individuality, incorporated with only one purpose in view — the maintenance of a club house for the comfort and intelligent diversion of its members."

The club house, now on the National Register of Historic Places, was sold in 1972 and still stands.

October 16, 1876: Antoinette Ford, long-time teacher and writer of local history was born on this day. She lived her whole life in St. Paul, graduating from St. Paul High School — today's Central — and was the class valedictorian. She earned a teaching degree, first taught at Irving Elementary School and later at Mechanics Arts High School. With others, Ford appeared in front of the school administration and urged higher salaries for teachers.

She had a real interest in local history, taught it, and wrote about Minnesota's past. One of her first recorded writings was *Outline for the Study of Minnesota in the Sixth Grade* published by the St. Paul Grade Teachers' Federation in 1915. *My Minnesota* came out in 1929, followed by *Gopher Tales* and *Building Minnesota* in the 1930s. However, there has been criticism of her descriptions of local Native Americans, sometimes referring to

them as "savages." Ford died in 1955.

October 21, 1839: The U. S. Secretary of War issued an order on this day ordering the marshal of Wisconsin territory that "intruders on... the Fort Snelling reservation," had to be removed. This order did not reach the marshal until February, and was not executed until May 6, 1840, when soldiers drove the settlers away and their cabins were destroyed.

These settlers had a hard life in a Canadian settlement in the Red River Valley facing floods, frosts, and grasshoppers then fled to Minnesota. Col. Josiah Snelling helped them when they arrived with sanctuary and supplies from the garrison's stores. He allowed some to stay in the barracks at nearby Camp Coldwater. A few became servants, married soldiers, and some were successful enough farmers to improve the land and provide some food for the garrison.

After their homes were destroyed, many refugees took passage on one of the rare steamboats. Some retreated beyond the line of the reservation and the expulsion of temporary settlers from the Fort Snelling reservation helped lead to the permanent settlement of St. Paul. Abraham and Mary Anne Perry, the Gervais brothers Pierre and Benjamin, Joseph Rondo, and others became early settlers of the city.

October 24, 1883: Police officer Daniel O'Connell was fatally shot on this day, the first time that a St. Paul officer had been killed in the line of duty. O'Connell was heading home around 3:00 a.m. when a man ran up and said two burglars had just left his house. Even though he was officially off-duty, the policeman sprang into action without a back-up. A little later a woman told him two suspicious men with guns had been prowling near her home on Dayton Avenue. O'Connell was found shot in the head around eight in the morning at the corner of Summit and Walnut Streets. He had been shot with an old muzzle-loading .32 caliber revolver.

Two men confessed to the murder and were sentenced to life imprisonment in Stillwater Prison. The City Council provided a rosewood casket and paid all funeral expenses. The services at Saint Paul's Cathedral were attended by the entire police department, fire department members, Mayor Rice, and other officials. The Great Western Band played at the event. The police handed 300 dollars to the widow to help out her family. The City Council provided a monthly income of twenty-five dollars to the O'Connell family.

Absentee Voting Available in Person or By Mail

Ramsey County

Anyone eligible to vote in Ramsey County may cast their absentee ballot — either by mail or in person — for the 2020 general election beginning **Sept. 18, through Monday, Nov. 2.**

Minnesota law allows all registered voters to

vote absentee without requiring the voter to state a reason.

Voters can visit ramseycounty.us/VoteByMail to request a ballot. A ballot will be mailed to the voter along with a pre-paid, pre-addressed envelope for returning their completed ballot materials. Voters can track the status of their absentee ballot through the Minnesota Secretary of State's online ballot tracker

Ballots must be postmarked by **Nov. 3** and delivered to the Ramsey County Elections Office by **4:30 p.m. on Nov. 10** per state guidelines to be accepted.

View from My Porch

Sage Holben
Forum Staff

We are yet in the beginning/learning stage of COVID-19; so much still to learn in this time of contemplation. Some of the "learning" is about myself. Some of the best "learning" comes through my sister. Her name is Roberta, but I am Cookie and she is Bobbi to each other. She is seven years younger and though our lives and relationship, for various reasons, have sometimes been rocky, and I've at times worried that I may have lost her and our relationship. We've always found our way back. For Bobbi, her love, her creativity, her depth, and her spiritual link to me, I am forever thankful. On my 75th birthday Bobbie texted me the following...a toast. With it, she captures so many memories and "remember when..." moments in our shared childhood.

"I wish you laughter. Having laughter; such a soothing tonic. In the Sage/Roberts blood, the mighty gift of sarcastic humor runs. My toast, may it always sustain you, all your days. Cheers.

Thank you for the many cards through the years I still have, packed away; a few books you gave me when I was about 13 years old. One, *Best Loved Poems of the American People*. Remember "Rags"? lol. Probably not. "Sonnets from the Portuguese" and two I recall, no title, only content...Japanese.

I read Richard Wright when you were in high school. I used to read whatever you were reading. Sometimes I sneaked them. Like your makeup and fishnet stockings. And Mary's glasses. And \$20 out of Dad's pocket. lol. Sorry. And I thank you for that.

Whenever I was in trouble, as an older teenager, people were amazed at my expanded vocabulary. Isn't life amazing?

Enjoy your visit with Sam and whatever wonderful thing you do.



Provide your feedback on updated station site designs.

Attend an online open house

- 1 Thursday, October 8**
Noon – 1:30 p.m.
- 2 Tuesday, October 13**
5:30 – 7 p.m.

Register for an online open house and learn about other events and opportunities to provide feedback:

metrotransit.org/gold-line
goldline@metrotransit.org
 651-602-1977

Featured Pet of the Month

*Rachel Kamish
Special to the Forum*

"Oh my God, is that an actual pig?!? On a leash?!?" That is a question that I am asked almost every time I take my pet mini pig for a walk. I guess a pig on a leash isn't something you see very often in the city.

I have wished for a pet pig ever since I read the book *Charlotte's Web* when I was 10 years old. Of course, my parents did not allow it, so I had to wait until I grew up. Two and a half years ago, my wish finally came true. I did some research and found a breeder in Indiana that would meet me halfway near Chicago. When I saw Ziggi's adorable little snout, I nearly cried tears of joy. He weighed only five pounds, and he slept on my lap for the whole ride home. Ziggi has grown a lot since then; he now weighs around 100 pounds, but he still likes to sleep on my lap!

Owning a mini pig is a decision that should not be taken lightly. They are extremely intelligent animals (comparable to the intelligence of a human toddler), and if not kept busy, can become destructive. They need adequate outdoor time as well, and they will figure out how to escape the yard or enclosure if it is at all possible. Then there is the issue of permits/licenses. Some cities do not allow pet pigs at all, no exceptions. In Saint Paul, one has to obtain a permit for a mini pig. I had to get signatures from 75% of the neighbors on my block, then have an animal control officer come to my house and inspect it. I also have to renew the permit every year, by paying a fee and making an appointment for an animal control officer to come to the house and review.

Mini pigs are fairly easy to train due to their high in-

telligence level. However, it takes some time for potty training and usually a pig will regress and then pick up where they left off several times before truly house trained. I've read that a pig truly doesn't have real bladder control until they're around 12 weeks old. Luckily, Ziggi was pretty easy to potty train. He did have a few accidents but overall learned very quickly. I have also taught him several tricks, and he is eager to perform them if a treat is promised. Treats should be low calorie and fairly healthy. Ziggi is fed mini pig food twice daily (easily found on Amazon or at Tractor Supply Co.), and he eats lots of fresh veggies and a limited amount of fruits and raw unsalted nuts. His treats are either raisins or cheerios.

Ziggi is a somewhat nervous animal, he does not really

enjoy being petted. This is unfortunate because everyone who meets him wants to pet him. I have worked with him a lot on this and have gotten him to the point where he will at least tolerate a quick scratch as long as the stranger gives him treats. He also does not enjoy the company of our dog, who is a Puggle (Pug/Beagle mix). For the dog, the feeling is mutual. They simply tolerate one another; the

dog stays out of the pig's path. Pigs and dogs need to be supervised at all times since they speak different languages. If left unsupervised, it can get ugly.

Ziggi is a very vocal pig, he is constantly "talking" about something. I joke that he does animal impressions, because there are times when he sounds like a goose or a donkey. He keeps me laughing all day long. He stands at the back door and makes a grunting sound when he wants to go outside. When he's ready to come back in, he makes the same sound from outside the door. If that doesn't get him noticed immediately, he will rub his snout on the glass so it makes a loud

squeaking sound.

Pigs are extremely social creatures. They prefer to be around their "herd" most of the time. I try not to leave Ziggi home alone for more than five or six hours at a time. I have a family who are all on different schedules so that makes it fairly easy to achieve that. He also sleeps in my bed, which I think is a good way to bond with your pet piggy. But beware, they do not like changes in routine! So, if you start letting a pig sleep in your bed, be prepared to keep it that way or listen to a lot of tantrums. Yes, they will throw a tantrum just like a toddler, screams and all.

If you ever decide to get a pet mini pig, please consider adopting! I wish I had found out before I got Ziggi, that so many mini pigs get abandoned because they get "too big." Many breeders promise a teacup sized pig, and that simply does not exist. Mini pigs weigh anywhere from 90 to 250 pounds. There are tons of mini pig rescues and sanctuaries that are overrun with pigs that have been surrendered for various reasons, and they are looking for forever homes.

Mini pigs make great pets, provided you have the time and space required for them. They are smart, sweet, and have tons of personality. Please adopt, don't shop!



What makes your pet endearing? Frightening?

How do you and your pet communicate with each other?

Share with readers how you talk with each other?

How did you choose each other in the beginning?

Is there a life lesson you have learned from your non-human companion?

The Forum staff invite all readers to share their photos and stories/comments about their pets and/or pet theories.

E-mail to:
daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com



Dear East Side Neighbors,

Elections matter!

**PLEASE VOTE ON NOVEMBER 3.
OR BEFORE.**

Did you know that the East Side has about the lowest voter turnout in the State of Minnesota? Did you know that when we don't vote we send a message to our elected leaders that we don't care? And as your city councilmember, **I KNOW YOU CARE.** I know how busy you are and how demanding life is. But if we stay home this November, we jeopardize our children's and our community's future. **Please encourage everyone you know - your family, your neighbors and your friends to vote on or before November 3.**

You can vote on **OR BEFORE** November 3rd. Ramsey County welcomes you to come to 90 Plato Boulevard -- take East 7th Street to the Lafayette Bridge and go right on Plato Boulevard -- **anytime between now and November 2nd between the hours of 8:00 am to 4:30 pm** -- to vote early. Or you can vote at your polling place on Tuesday, November 3. **Go to MNvotes.org or call (651) 266-2171** to find out where to vote, voting early by mail, or for any other questions you may have!

See you at the polls!

- City Councilmember Jane L. Prince



**Ward 7 City Councilmember
JANE PRINCE**

320 City Hall, 15 West Kellogg
Saint Paul, MN 55102
(651) 308-4984

Jane.prince@stpaul.gov

www.facebook.com/stpaulward7/

*Paid for by Jane Prince for Ward 7
JanePrinceW7@gmail.com | 651-308-4984*

Flower Power at Lake Phalen

*Mandy Okonek
Special to the Forum*

My soul feels sanitized. Like some greater force of good got all the stains out with a magic eraser. Vibes of love and community radiated healing intentions that wafted across Lake Phalen on September 5 in light clouds of sage smoke.

Native Minnesotans shared their belief that we are all connected as humans through their reverence to their ancestors. Flower Power honors relatives who do not have the freedom of fresh air, green grass, or simply to smell the roses.

Behind a white ribbon, Flower Power artisans assembled the bounty of nature's curb appeal crafting memorials honoring those within the concrete walls of a justice system that is not always fair and just. Zinnias, dahlias, and roses formed dragonflies and stars, a peaceful protest to crooked incarceration.

Arriving on our bicycles, my family pulled up on a piece of grass and watched hand-drum artist Tommy Two Braids perform traditional songs of healing in his native tongue. Next, local group Buffalo Weavers, featuring Ben Weaver on acoustic guitar and banjo with spoken word artist Strong Buffalo, provided musical poetry backed by musicians Mikkel Beckman on washboards, Liz Draper on violin and Walken Schweigert on stand-up base.

As the flowers transformed into art, I became overwhelmed with melancholy for all the people who can't smell them. I felt grateful for the opportunity to connect with a culture that is not my own as I enjoyed live music outside and the light breeze of a late summer afternoon. My heart burst with compassion for people whom I'll never meet living without the freedoms I enjoy and, in those moments, I began to understand a different definition of the word relative.

Flower Power can be followed on Facebook @flowerpowerheal and on Instagram: [flower_power_heal](#).



Mandy Okonek

The photos above were taken by *Forum* staff member, Mandy Okonek, who stopped by the Flower Power event on September 5.

World-Wide October Holidays

*Temperance Brennan
Special to the Forum*

I hope you are not tired of having your local anthropologist point out some of the national celebrations throughout the world. I understand that some of the traditional events in the U.S. are being confronted. In Minnesota and in many other states, Columbus Day is gone and usually replaced by Indigenous People's Day. Confederate statues in some spots are being removed. Now the only major holiday for October is probably Halloween.

Here are some of the celebrations in other countries. Your family could find out about food and culture in Iraq, South Korea, French Guiana, or the little-known St. Vincent and Grenadines.

October 3: Independence Day is known as "National Iraqi Day," and is the country's national holiday marking the independence from Britain in 1932. On this same day, the Kingdom of Iraq was admitted to the League of Nations.

October 9: Hangeul Day. This is a commemoration held to remember the cre-

ation of Hangeul, the country's native alphabet as proclaimed by the publication of Hunminjeongeum in 1446. It is observed by North and South Koreans and is also called Hangeul Proclamation Day.

October 15: Festival Cayenne is the most important parade in French Guiana and it features the cultural tradition of the Guianan Creole people. It is renowned around the world for the diversity and originality of its costumes.

October 20: Mashujaa Day. Mashujaa is Swahili for heroes and is also known as Heroes' Day. The public holiday honors all those who contributed to the struggle for Kenya's independence. It was initially called Kenyatta Day to honor Jomo Kenyatta, the new country's first president.

October 24: Independence Day. On this day in 1964, the British colony of Northern Rhodesia became the independent Republic of Zambia and Kenneth Kaunda became the inaugural president serving until 1991.

October 27: Independence Day. St. Vincent and Grenadines was granted associate statehood status on October 27, 1969, giving control over its internal affairs. Following a referendum, St. Vincent and the Grenadines became the last to gain full independence from the British and became part of the British Commonwealth.



Free Masks Available

Ramsey County

Ramsey County today launched a new initiative – A Mask for Everyone – to ensure that individuals and families have access to cloth face masks to help slow the spread of COVID-19.

Led by the county's COVID-19 Racial

Equity and Community Engagement Response Team (RECERT), the program will prioritize distributing homemade cloth masks to racially, ethnically, and culturally diverse communities.

Individuals and families in Ramsey County that are in need of masks can visit ramseycounty.us/AMaskforEveryone to request a mask. Each recipient will be provided with: homemade cloth mask to help slow the spread of COVID-19.

Accurate and up-to-date information about the importance of wearing a mask. Instructions on proper use and care of homemade masks.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

668 Greenbrier St., St. Paul, MN 55106

Phone: 651-776-0550 E-mail:
daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com

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Photographer: Lou "The Photo Guy" Michaels

Next issue: November 2020. **Deadline for material: October 10, 2020.**

Having Purpose

Clara Martin
Special to the Forum

Since mid-March, many of us have been staying home more than usual. The pandemic has changed our lives and left many feeling adrift. In the past, home has been our place of comfort and solace, our sleeping and eating place, and our occasional kick-back place. But, now for many, home feels stifling; it's become the place we want to escape from instead of the welcoming place to which we want to escape.

When our confinement first began, we cleaned closets, caught up on chores we had been putting off, even made a list of friends and family and began making calls. Some wrote letters, postcards, even began journaling or meditating. As the weeks passed, we began to plug into video chats and use FaceTime more often. We missed people. We missed our life outside of those confining walls. We became irritated by the masks and occasionally rebelled and went off without one.

Feeling guilty, we gave ourselves a sound lecture about self-pity and pledged to do the right thing because the numbers of cases kept increasing; sadly, the number of deaths were also on the rise. Determined to be more vigilant, the masks stayed on, the handwashing continued and physically distancing continued. But, the feeling of isolation became more difficult; clearly a sense of purpose was needed beyond the daily ritual of: make bed, take shower, eat breakfast, and make phone calls.

At the 2020 Democratic Convention, former Vice-President Joe Biden talked about purpose and how having purpose got him through a grim time in his life after losing his wife and daughter.

"I know how mean, cruel, and unfair life can be sometimes. But I've learned two

things. First, your loved one may have left this Earth, but they'll never leave your heart. They'll always be with you. You'll always hear them. And second, I found the best way through pain and loss and grief is to find purpose. As God's children, each of us have a purpose in our lives. We have a great purpose as a nation to open the doors of opportunity to all Americans, to save our democracy, to be a light to the world once again, and finally to live up to and make real the words written in the sacred documents that founded this nation. That all men and women are created equal, endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights, among them life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

Dr. Kate Siner writes about the value of purpose in a blog composition posted September 25, 2017 titled "Why is Finding Purpose So Important?"

"Ever wonder, "Why is finding your purpose so important?" It seems like it requires a lot of effort (all that personal development work), time (all those hours spent doing that personal development work), and even money (you probably pay someone to guide you in your work). So, is it worth it? Well, yes.

There are two ways to go through life: We can strive to be conscious of our purpose and pursue it, or we can leave that call unanswered. When we choose to be more conscious, we live the same peaks and valleys of life as everyone else, but we experience them differently. The peaks and valleys in the life of a conscious person inform them, strengthen them, and ultimately lead them to greater well-being.

If we live an unconscious life, without purpose, life just happens to us.

"Finding your Life Purpose means that you feel good with the way that you are situated in the world and your actions in it have a sense of meaning to you. It does not mean that you have suddenly discovered that you are going to be the person to cure cancer (although that is a possibility). Our purpose is, more often than not, not one act or one career, but a greater sense that our inside self and our outer life are in alignment." [Excerpt from "4 Giant Ways Your Life Changes When You Find Your Purpose"]

This disclaimer informs readers that the views, thoughts, and opinions expressed in the text belong solely to the author, and not necessarily to the Forum.

Early Voting begins Sept. 18

In Person: 90 Plato Blvd W. in St. Paul (10am-4pm)
By Mail: call 651.266.2171



FOUNG HAWJ
MINNESOTA STATE SENATOR OF DISTRICT 67

P.O. Box 600336 St. Paul, MN 55106 (651) 592-3129 / info@founghawj.com www.founghawj.com

Dear Eastsiders,

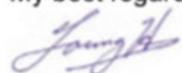
I am humbled to work alongside my neighbors and community to bring forth progress to Senate District 67 and our state. I have worked hard on COVID-19 relief, affordable housing, access to healthcare, economic equity, youth summer jobs, E-12 to higher education, a significant bonding bill, funding for Metro State, CLUES, and the Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Housing Services, to mention a few.

During this election, I remain focused on helping to provide resources to our community and state as we continue to face the challenges of living in this pandemic. At the core of my campaign are:

- COVID-19 updates, resource availability and impacts.
- I will work hard during Special Sessions to provide resources for schools to continue providing breakfast and lunch to students and call for more resources for students with disabilities.
- New housing legislation is planned to be heard in the next special session and I will be advocating for additional funding for renters and those who own rental property. Both are in need of resources during COVID-19.
- I have been instrumental in the recent passage of the Police Accountability Act and it is only a start on reforming and updating our public safety programs. I do not support defunding the police. I do support plans to empower community safety and outreach. My initiatives on mental illness and autism trainings were in the final bipartisan bill.
- I will continue to support the passage of the \$1.9 billion bonding bill that will create jobs all over Minnesota.

These are challenging times and when we work together as a community we will meet and conquer any challenge. Thank you for entrusting me to represent you in the Minnesota Senate. It is a privilege to work for you.

My best regards,



Foung Hawj, State Senator District 67



Sen. Hawj's family, nieces and nephews

Sew Masks for Seniors!

East Side Elders

Calling all sewing folks! We are looking for people to make and donate fabric masks — using the pattern of your choice — to distribute to seniors and the volunteers who serve them.

If you can help, contact us at 651-683-2326 or Info@EastSideElders.org.

We serve over 600 seniors so the need for masks is very great and every donation helps!

If you need a mask, contact us at Info@EastSideElders.org or 651-683-2326 and we can arrange a contact-free delivery for folks 60+ in our service area.

Ramsey County Suspends Volunteer Opportunities Until Safe from Covid

Ramsey County

Ramsey County remains deeply grateful to the thousands of volunteers that donate their time and energy each year to help us deliver programs and services that enhance our quality of life. At this time, most of our volunteer opportunities are temporarily suspended with a tentative return to service after Labor Day.

If you are interested in volunteering during the COVID-19 pandemic, the following organizations have information on local and remote opportunities: HandsOn Twin Cities Volunteer Match, Neighbors Helping Neighbors, St. Paul, and the Medical Reserve Corps of Ramsey County.

We will be taking a hiatus until fall with assurances of updates should conditions change. We wish you a happy and healthy summer.



Vote
State Senator Foung Hawj
Democratic-Farmer-Labor Endorsed
Tuesday November 3rd, 2020
For more information, contact 651.592.312
info@founghawj.com www.founghawj.com

Welcome Back to Landmark Center

Landmark Center Reopens with Limited Access

*Krissy Schoenfelder-Carlson
Landmark Center*

Landmark Center is pleased to welcome visitors back to its work of art serving people, to browse exhibits, and peruse its history. Guests can book advance appointments to visit the building by reserving tickets online

Appointments allow visitors to safely browse Landmark Center for one and a half hours. In addition to regular building exhibits, the American Association of Woodturners Gallery of Wood Art will be open, starting September 6, during Landmark Center's visitor hours, and the Schubert Club Museum is scheduled to reopen this fall.

Entry times are Wednesday through Friday, 11 a.m., 1 and 3 p.m.; and Sunday, 12 and 2 p.m. (Sunday reservations close at 12 p.m. on Fridays). Guests should enter through the 5th Street entrance only. Visitors requiring use of the accessible

entrance on Market St. should note that when making their reservation to call Jenny at 651-292-3237 at least 30 minutes prior to arrival. (Building Rental inquiries: please contact the Events Dept. to make a separate appointment.)

In accordance with State of Minnesota COVID-19 mandates, all guests must follow protocol guidelines and wear face coverings in this public building. Guests are encouraged to bring their own, but Landmark Center will gladly supply one to any guest who needs a covering.

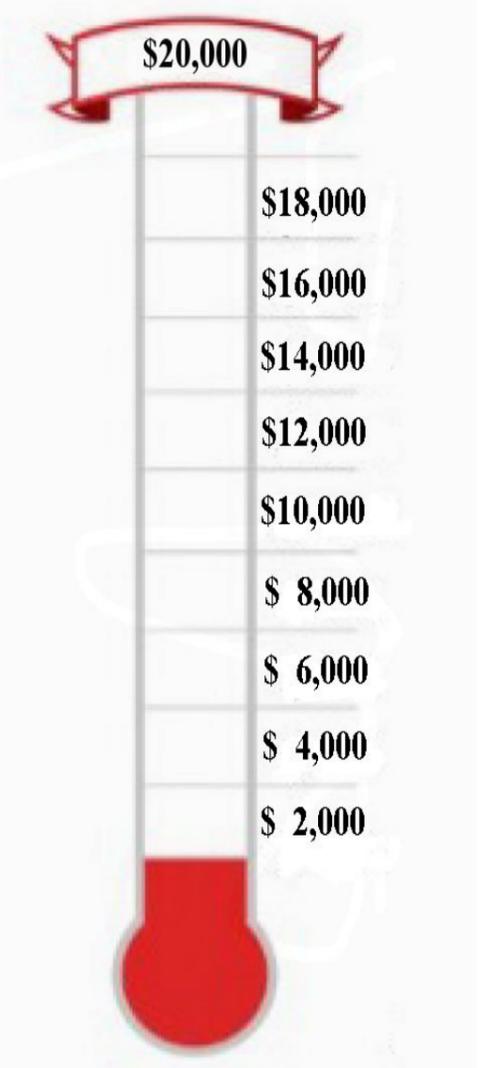
Landmark Center hosts countless special community events. During COVID-19, Landmark Center's website will serve as the primary host of engaging and enlightening virtual programs for every age! As Landmark Center implements future events and activities inside Landmark Center, the health and well-being of audiences, artists, community partners, and volunteers continue to be the foremost priority.

To ensure Landmark Center is a safe, clean, and healthy environment Landmark Center staff regularly sanitizes high-touch surfaces during building hours as well as increase public space cleaning schedules. Additionally, there is a limited guest count per reservation time slot, monitoring of all building areas to ensure space for social distancing, posting where limited access is necessary, providing touchless sanitization stations on each floor near the elevators, and provide face coverings if a guest does not arrive with one.



Many thanks to our Friends of the Forum 2020 donors:

MaryAnn Cogelow
John Davidsen
Jean Rivard
Steve Trimble
Greg Cosimini
David Lyons
Mark Gallagher



Help us raise money to print the Forum! Your name could be featured above with our 2020 donors!

You got somethin' to say? Say it here!

The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* welcomes all opinions and neighborhood anecdotes – send yours to:

daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com

Opinions expressed in contributed articles may not represent the views of the *Forum*.

Deadline for the November issue of the *Forum* is October 10, 2020.

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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. 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 from 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 2020. **Our goal for 2020 is \$18,000; thanks to readers like you, we've raised \$1,815 to date – will you help us reach our goal in 2020?**

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: givemn.org/organization/Hopewell-Communications-Incorporated

Name _____ Email _____ Phone _____

Address _____ City, State, ZIP _____

Make checks payable to: *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* and mail to 668 Greenbrier St, St. Paul, MN 55106. For more information, contact 651-776-0550 or daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support!