

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

Volume 39, No. 5

June 2025

"The Voice of the Community"

Yanpá Spring Wind Celebration

Join Saturday, May 24
at the Battle Creek
Pavilion, Maplewood
from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Mandy Okonek

Join Minnesota Parks Artists in Residence Marlena Myles and Tanáǵidaŋ Tó Wiŋ (Tara Perron/Blue Hummingbird Woman) as they roll out the red carpet to welcome the return of Yanpá, the Dakota Spring Wind of the East. Expect a vibrant community celebration rooted in healing, renewal, and fueled by the creativity of our indigenous neighbors.

MNPAiR (Minnesota parks Artist in Residence) is a statewide pilot project connecting artists with parks to explore community, belonging, and the beauty of our outdoor spaces. This project is funded through the collaboration of: The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources Parks and Trails Division, the Metropolitan Council Metropolitan Regional Parks, and the Greater Minnesota Regional Parks and Trails Commission through a partnership with Forecast Public Art.

Tara and Marlena are combining their creative alchemy to distill the essence of spring into a day-long celebration of art, community, and culture. The event begins at 8:30 a.m. with a sacred Nibi Water Walk & Ceremony led by Sharon Day. In a recent blog post, Day explains, "We are water walkers, who sing and pray and speak to the water spirits, to encourage and show the water ways, we love them, all of them, the springs that flow up from underground wells, the creeks, the rivers, the lakes that flow into the sea."

Day's Nibi Water Walks are an expression of Ojibwe ceremonial water teachings. I attended one of her walks as we followed Phalen Creek as it flows from Lake Phalen to its terminus on the Mississippi River. The idea is to connect

with water, our water, and offer up healing vibes. Why? Because our water needs all the love and way less pollution. Day's water walks are a beautiful way to garner this important water awareness.

Water walkers are asked to gather at the pavilion for a blessing and join the 2.5-mile walk along Battle Creek to its endpoint at Point Douglas Road. A free shuttle will return walkers to the pavilion. Please park near the waterpark/pavilion and review Water Walk protocols ahead of time: nibiwalk.org/protocols-for-the-nibi-walks.

Starting at 11 a.m., the celebration continues at the pavilion with art, food, storytelling, and hands-on activities weaving Dakota ancestral knowledge with modern indigenous expression. Rejoice and feel the warm winds of a new season and gather in community to celebrate our seasonal dance with the natural world dance that does not require socks.

Event Highlights Include:

- Nibi Water Walk & Ceremony with Sharon Day
- Storytelling with Travis Bush
- Dakota Puppetry by DakotaFem
- Screenprinting with Uprising Revolt Printing
- Indigenous Food Demonstration with Jenna Grey Eagle
- Native Food Trucks & Field Games
- Dakota Coloring Pages & Augmented Reality Art
- Spring Market with 30+ Indigenous Vendors

Everyone is welcome — people of all ages and backgrounds are invited to share in the healing and renewal vibes of the Yanpá Spring Wind. Come connect with community, nature, and the rich cultural traditions that shape our shared outdoor spaces.

Sharon Day sums it up best when she shares the community of Nibi Water Walks: "We learn to become community. Indigenous, Blacks, whites, and people from the east, feminine and masculine, and everyone in the circle, there is no book, or classroom, but there is nature, and the wind blows, and the birds sing, and the horses and the deer, and Migizi greet us, all of us, become a community, learning and growing together." Ain't that just the truth?



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

An East Side Hidden Gem:

Art in the Hollow Set for
June 7

Benjamin Mason

The East Side is filled with hidden gems that sometimes get overlooked and unexplored. It's a neighborhood rich with cultural uniqueness, striving newcomers, working class values, and neighborhoods with deep historical context sitting right next to some of the newest houses and neighbors of St Paul. Art in the Hollow is again celebrating all that the East Side has to offer this year on Saturday, June 7.

This year's theme: "An East Side Hidden Gem" highlights the area's uniqueness to the magic of the art festival: it appears early one morning in the hidden forest of Swede Hollow Park, and exists for one day. From 10 a.m. Until 5 p.m., the bike paths and grass patches of the park will be filled with art. The slope be-

low Swede Henge will face a stage. Pleine Aire artists will be painting. Children will have their faces painted. Paintings might be hanging from trees, if certain artists are in a particularly creative mood once again.

Art in the Hollow will feature all kinds of art and music, but the festival will also celebrate the culture and history of the East Side. Much of the art will be local. The food will be local. The festival lives in the shadow of the historic Hamm's Brewery site as it is redeveloped, and the good neighbors at the History Tent will tell you all about the immigrant stories of Swede Hollow, one of St. Paul's founding communities.

Whether you come primarily for the music, the art, the food, or the stories, Art in the Hollow is an outdoor destination event that will help any family inaugurate the summer season. Parking will be available in the large parking lot on Minnehaha near 11 Wells and St Paul Brewing. You are invited to come out and explore the East Side!



Upcoming VETS FEST 2025 To Be Held Saturday, June 29 and Sunday, June 30

Luke Braulick

Upcoming VETS FEST 2025 will be held Saturday June 29 & Sunday June 30.

The VETS FEST 2025 will be held outside on the beautiful grounds of the Gasthaus Bavarian Hunter restaurant located at 8390 Lofton Ave North in Stillwater.

The event will start at noon on both Saturday and Sunday. The Pat McLaughlin Blues/Old School R 'n' R band will open the day's music at 1 p.m. on Saturday June 29. Immediately following the Pat McLaughlin Band, a special Huey helicopter landing will occur in a huge grassy field adjacent to the restaurant.

After The Huey Chopper landing, The Jimmy's, an award winning R & B/blues

band will hit the stage at 3:30 p.m. and proceed to blow the audience off their seats.

On Sunday, June 29, the live entertainment will be provided by Erin McCawley and Harrison Street Band. They will play from 1 to 3 p.m. Immediately after Erin McCawley and Harrison Street, The Dylan Salfer Band will rock the stage at 3:30 p.m.

This event is made possible because of the efforts of Pat McLaughlin, Founder and Principal Promoter of The Vets for Music Organization. The mission of Vets for Music is to bring live entertainment to veterans who are residing at veterans rest homes. There are a few such veterans rest homes in the state of Minnesota and Florida. Pat McLaughlin's goal is to play all of them in 2025/2026.

This event is free and open to the public. The VETS FEST 2025 is a RAIN or SHINE EVENT.

Questions? EMAIL Or CALL Luke Braulick @ LJB\ Presents Promotions LJBPRESENTSS@gmail.com 651 253-4363.



Recognizing AmeriCorps Member, Pat Garvey

Andrea Paygar-Flangiah
Program Manager Reading and Math Corps

April was National Volunteer Appreciation Month, and I'm writing today to celebrate someone who has spent the last four years supporting our students. As an AmeriCorps member with Math Corps, Pat Garvey has focused on providing our Saint Paul students with extra practice and support to improve their math skills. Over the past four years, she has given a total of 4,800 hours to help students succeed! Pat works with students one-on-one and in small groups, providing targeted sup-

port to help them strengthen their skills. Throughout her service, she has had the opportunity to work across multiple sites in the East Metro, bringing creativity and inspiration to help students develop a love for math. By supplementing the excellent work already happening in classrooms, Pat has contributed to exceptional growth and meaningful impact in student learning. Having this extra support has been vital. It's been amazing to see the transformations in our students. She's been an invaluable part of our community, and the students have fun working with her. I especially have enjoyed watching her build strong relationships with the students she serves. I couldn't let the school year end without acknowledging Pat and all she's done to support our students — it's been incredible having her as part of the school community. We're looking for more great people like Pat to join our team as a tutor. If you're interested, please visit join.readingandmath.org.

The Forum is Hiring an Ad Manager!

The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* is hiring! We are looking to add an integral member to our team as we expand and grow our community news source through advertising sales.

This is the perfect opportunity for students with a graphic design, business, or marketing background or degree.

Hours are flexible and training will be provided. Compensation is a generous 25% commission per ad, per month.

Experience creating ads is a bonus, but not necessary. Ad manager will be paid once the ad is paid.

If you are looking for gaining experience in advertising or community engagement, please send a short email with your qualifications to daytons-bluffdistrictforum@gmail.com, for consideration in this exciting opportunity.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

Friends of Swede Hollow

If you have a passion for history and preserving nature, please join us for our monthly meeting on the third Tuesday of every month. Our meetings are held at St. John's Lutheran Church at 765 Margaret St., back entrance. For the most accurate information on the next meeting, email Michel or follow us on Facebook. The meeting is **June 17** and starts at **6:30 p.m.** and is an excellent resource for park updates and events. For more updates email taylor672@comcast.net or call Michel at 651-442-3366.

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, May 30 at 11 a.m.** If you'd like to attend, email daytons-bluffdistrictforum@gmail.com for more information. We are currently meeting at the Dayton's Bluff Library.

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

someone will assist you with your application. 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.

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, and address people's concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side. Police meetings are held at **9 a.m. and 6 p.m.** on the third Tuesday of each month. Bring your neighbors! Call Jacque Englund at 651-266-5548 or email Jacque.Englund@ci.stpaul.mn.us to ensure the meetings have not been canceled.

New National Suicide Prevention Hotline Number

988 has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route

callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Text or Dial. 988 was recently launched as an alternative to calling 911.

Xcel Phone Numbers

Gas Leak: 800-895-2999. Power Outage: 800-895-1999.

Call 811 before you dig: Before starting that roto-tiller or heaving that shovel into the ground for *anything*, call 811. At no charge, Xcel will have a trained technician check the area on your property or on the boulevard to make sure there are no wires, pipes, or other hidden surprises in the designated digging area. Usually, someone checks within a day, marking the 'no-dig' area with painted lines, and everyone is safe!

Dayton's Bluff Community Council Board of Directors Meeting

The Dayton's Bluff Community Council is inviting everyone to attend the meeting on **Monday, June 16 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** at the East Side Enterprise Center at 804 Margaret Street. Come meet your neighbors, share your ideas, hear from others, and elect board members. Your voice matters! Welcome address from the Board President, remarks from other local officials, and open discussion with your neighbors and board members are on the schedule. Looking forward to seeing you and serving your neighborhood needs. All are welcome.



Andrea Paygar-Flangiah
These two bulletin boards show what AmeriCorps member, Pat Garvey, made for her St. Paul students.

Free Legal Services for Low-Income People

Call Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services at 1-888-575-2954 or go to smrls.org to see if you qualify for free legal assistance with: family law, government benefits, housing, education, seniors, and more. You can also call if you're behind on your bills, having problems with credit or creditors, or have other civil legal issues, etc. If an interpreter is needed, SMRLS will provide one. Hours: **Monday through Friday, 9 to 11:45 a.m.; 1 to 3 p.m.**



Visit moundstheatre.org for information on upcoming events and to purchase tickets. The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106; 651-772-2253; historicmoundstheatre@gmail.com

Chess Club

Come join us at Karibu Grocery and Deli, located at 719 Payne Ave. in St. Paul for a weekly game of chess. All levels are welcome. We play every **Wednesday from 6-9 p.m.**

My Dayton's Bluff: Where Faith, Food, Culture, and Innovation Bloom

Rev. Carl Johnson

Living here in Dayton's Bluff, you get a real sense of the heart and soul of St. Paul. We're a neighborhood with a rich history and a spirit that's both resilient and forward-looking. Lately, I've been particularly struck by how different threads — faith, food, culture, and even innovation — are weaving together to make our corner of the city even stronger.

Down the way, the buzz around Storehouse Grocers & Coffee has been something special. Connected to Faith City Church, it's more than just a place to grab your groceries. For many in our neighborhood, it has become a lifeline, offering affordable food options with a genuine sense of care. Walking in there, you feel it – it's a space built on the idea that everyone deserves access to basic necessities. But it's also become a meeting point, a place where neighbors connect over a cup of coffee or while picking up their weekly staples. It's about nourishing more than just our bodies; it's about building those crucial community ties that make Dayton's Bluff feel like home. Knowing that this initiative is driven by a deep-seated faith and a desire to see our community thrive makes it all the more meaningful.

Then, thinking about the broader cultural landscape of our neighborhood, the spirit of innovation and creativity is also palpable. While the G.W. Carver Cultural

Center for Innovation might be a short drive from the heart of Dayton's Bluff, its impact resonates here. It stands as a beacon for fostering talent, celebrating our diverse cultural heritage, and looking towards the future. For many of our young people, and even us older folks looking to learn new skills, it's a vital resource. It's a place where ideas can take root, where artistic expression is nurtured, and where the skills for tomorrow are being developed. In a neighborhood as historically rich as ours, having a center dedicated to both preserving our culture and fostering innovation feels incredibly important. It's about honoring where we've come from while actively shaping where we're going.

What I see happening here in Dayton's Bluff, and in the broader St. Paul community with initiatives like these, is a beautiful synergy. Storehouse is tackling the fundamental need for food security and connection, creating a strong base. The Carver Center, in its focus on culture and innovation, is then building upon that base, enriching our lives and empowering us with new skills and perspectives.

It reminds me that a strong neighborhood isn't just about the buildings or the streets; it's about the people and the initiatives that lift us all. It's about the faith that inspires us to care for one another, the access to good food that sustains us, the vibrant culture that defines us, and the spirit of innovation that propels us forward. Here in Dayton's Bluff, I feel lucky to witness firsthand how these elements are coming together, making our community an even better place to call home. It's a testament to the strength and heart of our neighbors, and it fills me with hope for what we can continue to build together.

Photos to the right provided by Rev. Carl Johnson



Greg Cosimini



Tuj Lub Courts at Keller Regional Park Reopen After Major Renovation

Grand Re-Opening to Be Held July 19

Ramsey County

The Tuj Lub courts at Keller Regional Park have reopened after undergoing a significant \$2.5 million redevelopment project. Funding for the project was provided through a combination of the Metropolitan Council Equity Grant, the Legacy Amendment's Arts & Cultural Heritage Fund, and the Legacy Parks & Trails Fund. This initiative represents a continued effort to invest in inclusive, culturally meaningful public spaces that support both recreation and community engagement.

Renovations

The renovations include the installation of artificial turf, enhanced lighting, ex-

panded seating for players and spectators, and the addition of a new park shelter. A notable improvement is the expansion to a fourth throwing lane, which increases capacity for Tuj Lub — a traditional Hmong sport. Additionally, two new multi-use courts have been constructed, equipped with nets designed for Sepak Takraw, volleyball, and badminton.

Grand re-opening

To commemorate the reopening, a public celebration is scheduled for Saturday, July 19, 2025, from 10 a.m. to noon at Keller Regional Park, located at 2098 Maplewood Drive, Maplewood, MN.

The event will include a ribbon-cutting ceremony, remarks from featured speakers, demonstrations of Tuj Lub with opportunities for public participation, family-friendly activities, and food.

As event planning continues to progress, further updates will be made available to reflect finalized details.

Community members are encouraged to monitor announcements on this page for the most current information.



You got somethin' to say? Say it here!

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

daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com

Want to write about something that interests you? We want to hear it! Submit your stories and articles to the email above.

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

Deadline for the July issue of the Forum is June 10, 2025.

Discover What's Happening at Your Library This Summer

Dayton's Bluff Library

Saint Paul Public Library is the perfect summer break destination for kids, teens, and their families to explore, create, and connect. From June 1 to August 31, Summer Spark, the Library's summer learning and reading program, offers a wide range of free activities designed to keep youth engaged and inspired all summer long.

Kids and teens can get started by visiting any library location to pick up their own Summer Spark Reading and Activity Log—plus a free book to keep. Readers can track their progress all summer long as they read and complete fun learning activities. Teens can also earn entries into prize drawings—the more they read, the more chances they have to win!

Stop by our table at **Art in the Hollow** on **Saturday, June 7th from 10-4 p.m.** We'll have lots of information about summer reading at the library, you can

get free swag, or you can make something beautiful.

Mark your calendars for a visit from **Guerilla Pastures** on **Saturday, June 14th from 2:30-4:30 p.m.** at Dayton's Bluff Library! Meet farm animals, explore a beehive, build bee boxes, and learn about sustainable farming! Can't make it? Visit sppl.org/events for things to do at the library all summer long.

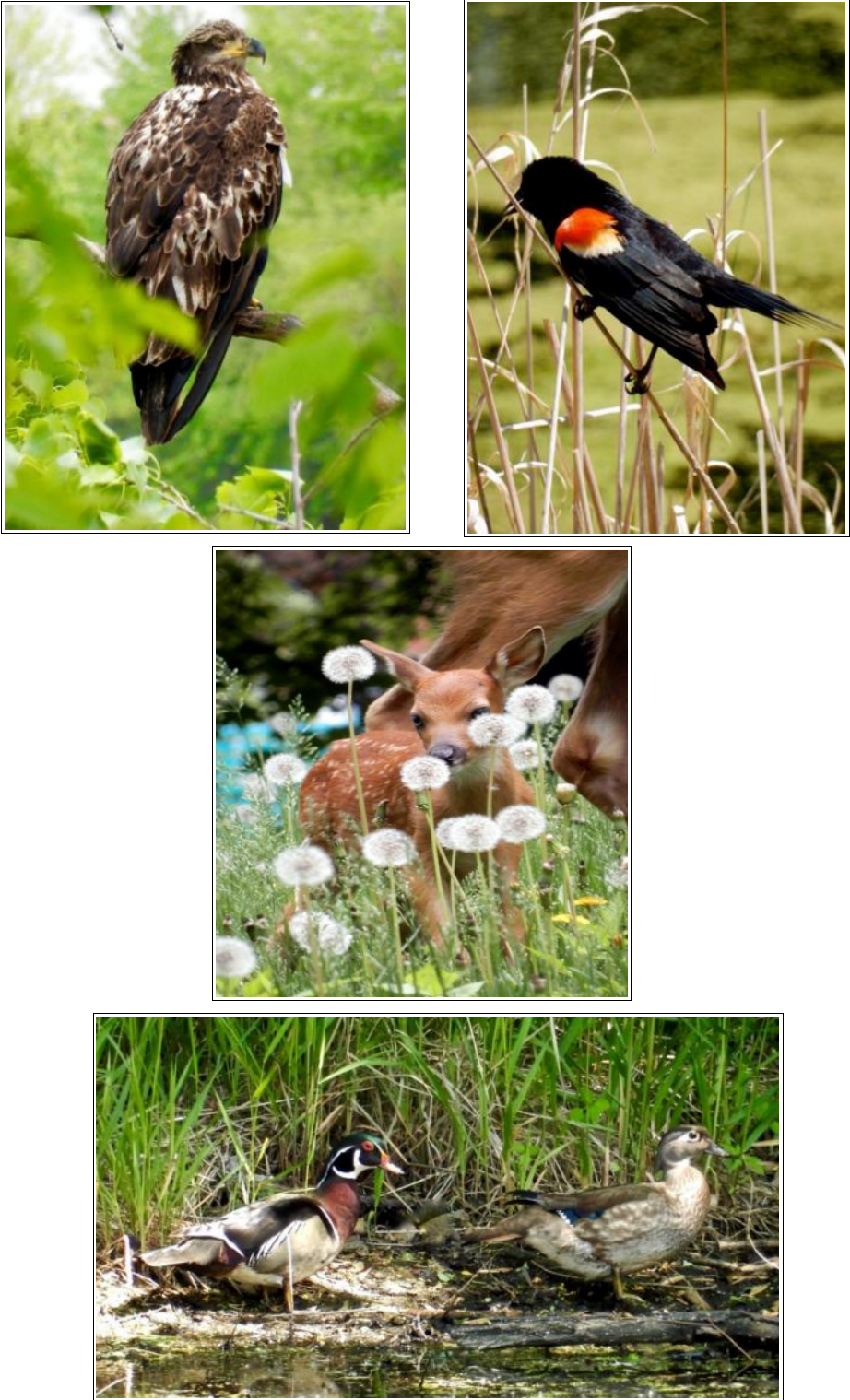
Join us for **Community Fun Day** on **Saturday, June 28 from 11-1:30 p.m.** for free outdoor activities, food, and entertainment for the whole family! The fun will start at 11:00 a.m. with a puppet show grand finale at 1:00 p.m. You can bring a lawn chair or picnic blanket to relax and enjoy the festivities. In the event of inclement weather, activities will be inside the Metro State and Dayton's Bluff libraries. Community Fun Day is hosted by the Metro State Library and Learning Center and the Dayton's Bluff branch of the Saint Paul Public Library. For more information, including disability accommodations, visit: <https://library.metrostate.edu/community-fun-day-saturday-june-28/>

For full program details and Summer Spark reading info, visit sppl.org/summer-break.



Mounds Park Wildlife

Photos by Bob Roth



Some Local Recipes

Edited by Steve Trimble

Sacred Heart Church, 840 E. 6th Street, St. Paul, which has been in our neighborhood for many years, published a cookbook. It started as a German congregation but now has a large Latino community. Here are three recipes. You might try a few for your family. I know that local rhubarb has started sprouting now, so try to bake a tasty pie or dessert.



Fresh Rhubarb Cake

Mrs. Walter Radloff

- ½ cup shortening
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 1 ½ cup brown sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 1 egg
- 2 cups flour
- 1 cup sour milk
- 2 cups rhubarb finely chopped

Topping:

- ½ cup white sugar
- ½ cup nuts chopped

Cream the sugar and shorting, add egg. Stir in sour milk with soda added. Add salt, vanilla, flour and rhubarb. Pour batter into greased 9x13 inch pan. Sprinkle topping over batter, and bake at 350 F for 40 to 45 minutes.



Homemade Summer Sausage

Mrs. Angie Bethke

- 3 pounds hamburger
- 1/2-1 teaspoon whole black peppercorns
- 3 tablespoons Morton's Quick Tender salt
- ½ teaspoon marjoram
- ½ teaspoon mustard seed
- ½ teaspoon sugar
- ½ teaspoon garlic powder
- 1 cup water

Form into 2 rolls after mixing the dry ingredients and water with hamburger. Wrap in heavy foil. Seal the ends well with string. Refrigerate for 24 hours. Bring a large pan of water to a boil, boil rolls for exactly 1 hour. Rewrap in fresh foil. May be frozen.



Hot German Potato Salad

Mrs. Claude Kurtz

- 6 large potatoes
- 2/3 cup vinegar
- 1/2-2 pounds bacon
- salt
- 1 large onion
- parsley
- 2 cups chicken broth (can of College Inn)

Dice the bacon and onions rather small. Fry together until done but not too crispy. Pour off most of the grease. Add the chicken broth, a little salt and parsley if desired. Bring to a boil and thicken like a gravy with a flour and water mixture. Pour over the cut potatoes and serve hot.



The Gordon Parks Gallery Presents Deep Breath: New Work by Melissa Borman

Exhibition Running Through June 21

Metro State University

Photography, video, and sound installation are combined by noted Minnesota based artist Melissa Borman in her engaging, immersive, and poignant presentation about the importance of breathing in our lives.

Breathing is an indicator of one's current embodied condition and is a fundamental human function that we often take for granted. The act of taking a breath; of inhaling and exhaling is more than functional. It is also a powerful metaphor for life and death. Breathing is often automatic, so when it is inhibited or strained it becomes a conscious act and makes us acutely aware of our existence and interdependence on the environment around us. Embracing these concepts, Borman created a new body of work that envelopes the gallery space. For the artist, breathing is a personal and vulnerable expression of memory, grief, loss, and resilience.

The exhibition is presented as several interwoven sections — video, sound, photography, and a public reading area — creating a multi-sensory, temporal experience. A multi-channel immersive sound work envelopes the viewer through delicate audio and the large, nuanced narrative of the projection draws one into the space. The reading area includes an additional sound work (on headphones) and several publications, which underscore Borman's research-based practice.

Six large photographs offer quiet moments of reflection amid the immersive soundscape. The artist explains the nuanced interplay between the photographs and immersive space. "Titled *Broken*

Hart, Bed, Page, Next, Black Dog, and *Rest*, each image distills themes of loss, grief, rest, and resilience into a single, contemplative frame. Dead wasps rest on a floral plate, a bird lies motionless on a patterned pillowcase, a fragile deer figurine bears the weight of its broken antlers — each subject a meditation on absence and memory. These photographs function as visual breaths, punctuating the intangible flow of sound with grounded, tangible echoes of mortality. As the sonic composition *Song* highlights the negative space of the voice, these images trace the fragile line between presence and absence, inviting viewers to pause and consider the weight of what remains." — Melissa Borman

Curated by Dr. Megan Arney Johnston, the approach was to work closely with the artist to create a new body of work

and facilitating new avenues of making. The aim was to curate a space that envelopes the viewer in time with emotive sounds and visual experiences. The curation was cognizant of aesthetics and how the work is integrated and responds to

space, place, and people.

Johnston adds: "The act of breathing is a rhythmic touchpoint to the world and to others. In this way it is a somatic experience. Borman also offers the viewer an emotive experience. The new body of work is an exchange, a moment of intimacy, a conduit for acceptance and offering up, and a possible site of physical and psychological communication. This creative inquiry reflects artistic vulnerability, a conceptual sophistication, and a highly technical process."

The exhibit opened with a reception on Thursday, April 17. The show will continue through June 21. Gallery hours are 1 to 7 p.m., Monday through Thursday and Saturday 11 a.m. – 5 p.m. The gallery is located on the first floor of the Library and Learning Center, 645 East Seventh Street, at the university's Saint Paul Campus.

For more information about the exhibit, contact Dr Megan Arney Johnston, Interim gallery director, at 651 999-5942 or megan.johnston@metrostate.edu.



Image by Melissa Borman



City of St. Paul

Construction has begun on the new Kellogg-Third Street bridge. Over the winter, the remaining bridge piers were removed and footings and foundations were built at numerous new pier locations. The first new concrete pier stems (columns) were formed and poured in the area of Wakan Tipi and Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary. During the spring and summer, bridge pier construction will continue throughout the site. On average, three major concrete pours are occurring weekly. As vertical stems rise from the ground and horizontal pier caps are poured on top to support beams, the appearance of a new bridge will quickly take shape.

Dayton's Bluff

Greater East Side

I ♥ Saint Paul's East Side!

If you are considering a move, call or text Brad Griffith, Realtor®

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Proudly Serving Saint Paul's East Side
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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Grand Old Day

Kick off summer with St. Paul's biggest festival, Grand Old Day — live music, great eats, and unforgettable vibes, Sunday, June 1, 8 a.m.– 6 p.m.

SCHEDULE

8 a.m. — Grand Old Day Fun Run 5K & Kids 1/2 Mile

9:30 a.m. — Grand Old Day Parade presented by Flint Hills Resources (Dale St. to Snelling Ave.)

9 a.m.-6 p.m.

Food & Arts Vendors
Arts & Nonprofit Zone
Sports & Wellness Zone at Willwer-scheid Funeral Home parking lot (Grand & Dunlap)

Family Fun Zone featuring 3M Visiting Wizards at Kowalski's lot (Grand & Syndicate)

Car Show presented by White Bear Mit-

subishi (Grand & Hamline)

Noon —Wiener Dog Races presented by Brian Wagner, Coldwell Banker Realty

Mini Kids Zone at Niko Niko Boba (Grand & Oxford)

11 a.m.-6 p.m.

Entertainment and Beverage Gardens
Live Music on 6 Stages powered in partnership with The Current and Poppy Red Productions

Performers include: The Cactus Blossoms, Them Coulee Boys, Yonder, Fenix-Dion, The4onthefloor, 13 Arrows, Ladies of the 80s, The Scarlet Goodbye, The Goombas, The Cellar Dwellers, Ashley DuBose, Brandon Commodore's NRC, Mike Munson, T. Mychael Rambo, Maryann and the Money Makers, Trevor McSpadden, International Reggae All-stars featuring Singing Tony, Devotion, Miloe, Lasalle, Dem Atlas, Poetic Roots, Obi Original 0308, St.Paul House Band, Eden Prairie House Band, St. Paul Youth Road Crew, and Plymouth House Band.



Dayton's Bluff District Forum

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While we are not currently printing, the paper is always available online at daytonsbluffdistrictforum.org. This publication of Hopewell Communications, Inc., is intended to provide a forum for the ideas and opinions of its readers and to be an instrument for developing community awareness and pride. Signed articles do not necessarily represent the views of the *Forum*. Material from this paper may be republished if it is attributed to the *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* and to the author, if any. Articles and letters to the editor are welcome and may be emailed to daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com, or mailed to the address above. The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* is delivered to businesses in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood when the budget permits. To find out where you can pick up a printed issue, send an email to the address above.

Board of Directors: Greg Cosimini, Karin DuPaul, Sage Holben, Steve Trimble
Editor/layout: Allison Lund-Zalewski; Editorial Associate: Mark Gallagher
Staff: Mandy Okonek

Next issue: July 2025. **Deadline for material: June 10, 2025.**



Saint Paul Fire Department

The new Saint Paul Fire Station No. 7 on Ross Ave. near Earl St. was officially opened on April 22 with a ribbon cutting ceremony. From left to right: Asst. Fire Chief Anthony Farina, Asst. Fire Chief Jeramiah Melquist, Ward 7 council member Cheniqua Johnson, Saint Paul Fire Chief Butch Inks, U.S. Senator Amy Klobuchar, Saint Paul Mayor Melvin Carter and Asst. Fire Chief Steven Sampson.

View From My Porch

Community-Police Relations: Starting the Conversation

Sage Holben

A group of neighbors had met for coffee and were on the topic of community policing. That particular phrase was proffered to the coffee group after, at a monthly community meeting, local police had reviewed stats on crimes addressed on the East Side. He asked, is it ever considered how much crime abatement is due to neighbors, residents, who intervene before crimes occur, stemming potential offenses before a crisis disrupts a neighborhood? Are residents given credit for keeping their neighborhoods safe, keeping crime down?

Essentially, my coffee pal was not seeking to place or displace credit for any one group; he was asking if the police understand the communities they serve. Do the officers who promise to protect us understand the character and cultures of our neighborhoods? Are we shown enough respect to be informed of events that touch our lives? Events such as 22 rounds shot in a drive-by, a shooting (no one hit) in the vicinity of a local popular restaurant and a university campus, all in a residential area. These are two of the many common incidents that occur in the Maria/Bates area between Third Street and Seventh Street. Guns and cars are the most common weapons, but knives and fists sometimes also become weapons.

I'm not saying the public needs to know details of a violent incident that happens within a home and has no direct safety or

physical connection to the public. Yes, it emotionally stresses the neighborhood; but privacy for the family is something I respect over gawkers; or needing to know versus wanting to know.

How important is it for law enforcement to understand the culture and character of a neighborhood? I have several neighbors who have highly valued the officers we once had who would regularly be present in our neighborhood. The trust the neighbors held for the officers was immense. The regular presence gave a sense of reliability in response time and in understanding the incident being reported. The trust worked both ways.

A concept that frequently arises in our conversations is the desire for city employees including law enforcement, to live within the city they serve. To live within the district is deemed even better, more fully engaging the resident and the protector/enforcer. In closing is a paragraph from the book *Police-Community Relations: Bridging the Gap* (2015) by Wayne L. Davis, PH.D.

Because law-enforcement is a police-community endeavor, good relations require that the police are representative of the population ... If the population is not adequately represented, the police may not understand the needs of the community. For instance, even though the police and the community both strive toward public safety, they may have different interpretations of what that means (Thacher, 2001). The police officer may focus only on serious and violent crimes, while the public may focus on the everyday quality-of-life problems. (pp 334-335)

I invite you to share your comments or thoughts on this topic. Post on the Dayton's Bluff District Forum FB page or email me at appelto@gmail.com or daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Metro State Librarian Wins 2025 Minnesota Book Award for Anthology

Metro State University

Locker Room Talk: Women in Private Spaces, a groundbreaking anthology co-edited by Michelle Filkins, a member of the library faculty at Metro State University, was named the winner of the Anthology category at the Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library's 2025 Minnesota Book Awards. Co-editor of the volume is Margaret Aldrich who is director of communications at the nonprofit Little Free Library organization. The honor was announced during the annual awards ceremony held at the Ordway Center for the Performing Arts on April 23.

Locker Room Talk brings together a diverse

collection of voices exploring the ways that women engage with family, friends, and even strangers. These conversations demonstrate how women, in both ordinary and extraordinary ways, take care of one another and their communities.

"This award provides an opportunity to amplify the importance of recognizing and celebrating the care that happens in women-centered spaces," said Filkins.

Locker Room Talk was published by Minneapolis-based Spout Press, co-founded by Filkins in 1989, and recognized for its commitment to supporting new or underappreciated voices.

The Minnesota Book Awards, presented by The Friends of the Saint Paul Public Library, honor the best in the Minnesota's literature in several categories. Winners are selected by a panel of writers, educators, librarians, and booksellers from across the state.

Metro State University is proud to celebrate this achievement as a reflection of its ongoing commitment to equity, inclusion, and academic excellence.



Donations Needed for the Forum to Print

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.

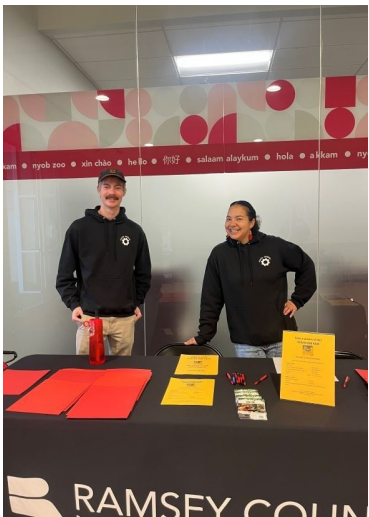
We are so close to meeting our goal and we know your donations would bring us one step closer to printing your favorite paper!

Interested to know more about our printing process? Stop by our table at Art in the Hollow on June 7.

Over 180 young adults attended the Youth Job and Resource Fair

Ramsey County

On May 3, over 180 young adults joined us at the Maplewood Mall for a fun and engaging Youth Job & Resource Fair! The event brought together local employers, resources and a whole lot of fun to help youth ages 15–18 explore job opportunities and build connections for the future. Over 180 young adults attended the Youth Job and Resource Fair.



Young people had the chance to learn about current summer employment opportunities, connect with supportive community organizations and enjoy fun activities like glitter tattoos, chair massages, and a Mother's Day card-making station.

A big thank you to our exhibitors: Ramsey County Career Services and Service Center, City of Saint Paul Right Track, City of Maplewood, M Health Fairview, Department of Labor and Industry – Labor Standards, Think Small (Child Care Aware MN), Como Park Zoo and Conservatory — City of Saint Paul, HIRED, Sunrise Banks, Fun Jumps Entertainment, YMCA, and Tubman.

The Youth Works! Team is excited to continue co-create spaces where youth and young adults can explore employment opportunities, gain confidence, and connect with opportunities that support their growth.

Dayton's Bluff DistrictForum

Subscribe to the *Forum*. Interested in keeping up with hot news? Send your email address to daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com and request to subscribe to the Forum every month.





Greg Cosimini

The North St. Paul History Cruzers Car Show returns this summer every Friday night from June 6 through September 19. There will be no show on Friday June 20 due to Back to the 50's at the Minnesota State Fair. The Cruzers Car Show is held in downtown North St. Paul on 7th Avenue between 1st Street and Henry Street from 6 to 10 p.m. There will be food, music and lots of classic cars, 1975 and older, every week.

Events Happening at Area Rec Centers

Next Level Soccer Camp
June 2 through 30
@Duluth and Case Rec Center
Come sharpen your soccer skills. We will be practicing and teaching you how to dribble, and strike a ball with accuracy and power.
Free
6-7:30 p.m.

Mobile Jazz
June 2 through August 27
@Dayton's Bluff Rec Center
Twin Cities Mobile Jazz Project is taught and mentored by the Twin Cities' best artists, performers, engineers, and educators on the scene. We offer mentoring and instruction in instrumental music, beat making, songwriting, singing and dance. Disciplines include: Instrumental Music, Recording and Performing Arts, Make Your Own Beats and Songs, Hip Hop and Modern Dance, Spoken Word, Singing and Songwriting.
Free
4:30-7 p.m.

Emerging Artists! Simple Painting Class (Duluth and Case)
June 4 through 25
@Duluth and Case Rec Center
"I really believe that if you practice enough, you could paint the Mona Lisa with a two inch brush"— Bob Ross. Let your inner Bob Ross out and put your artistic skills on a canvas.
Free
5:30-6:30 p.m.

Summer Rec Check
June 16 through August 21
@Dayton's Bluff Rec Center and Duluth and Case Rec Center
Summer Rec Check has everything you love about our school year Rec Check, but with a summer twist! Activities vary by day and location but could include crafts, cooking, swimming, gym games, sports, nature exploration, outdoor play, fitness, science, field trips, and more! A

daily snack is provided. Summer Rec Check takes place June 16-August 21 (Monday thru Thursday) from 1-4 p.m. No programming on June 19 and July 4. This is a FREE program for youth entering grades 1-6 this fall. Registration is required.
Free
1-4 p.m.

Girls United
June 20 through August 15
@Dayton's Bluff Rec Center
In this class kids will learn about themselves and focus on building self-esteem. Recognizing what emotions are, how they make them feel, and how they can manage their emotions. Kids will get a journal and learn how to use it. Kids will learn about hygiene and how that affects them. They'll also learn about hair care, as well building relationships with other youth.
Free
3-4:30 p.m.

Just Grilling!
June 24
@Dayton's Bluff Rec Center
Kids learn the basics of BBQ with staff! And the best part is that they get to eat some amazing BBQ.
Free
4-6 p.m.

Beginner Teen Badminton
June 24 through July 1
@Battle Creek Rec Center
Teens will learn how to play badminton by working on the basic techniques of the sport. All equipment is provided.
\$5 for residents; \$8 for non-residents
5:30-7 p.m.

Sunny Arts
June 27
@Battle Creek Rec Center
Participants will enjoy a day outside doing a variety of different art activities.
\$5 for residents; \$8 for non-residents
1-3 p.m.

Visit stpaul.gov/departments/parks-and-recreation/recreation-centers for more information and more locations for summer activities.



Senator Foug Hawj Ushers Environment and Natural Resources Omnibus Bill to Senate Passage

Eden Teller

On Tuesday, April 29, Senate Environment, Climate and Legacy Committee Chair Senator Foug Hawj (DFL-St. Paul) successfully passed the Environment and Natural Resources budget omnibus bill on a 35-30 vote.

Senator Hawj releases the following statement:

“I am proud of these investments in Minnesota’s environment and the people who live here. As the federal government rolls back environmental standards across the country, our state protections are more important than ever — as are the activities that help future generations fall in love with nature, like hunting, fishing, hiking and foraging. I am particularly proud of the Community Grants provision, which opens grant funding to communities that have hurt by pollution and climate change but overlooked for environmental grant funding. When we protect our natural resources — the water, air, land, and wildlife we rely on — we protect ourselves and our future.”

Key provisions include:

— Diversified Agency Funding: This bill shifts some funding for the DNR and PCA’s critical services out of the general fund and increases two user fees: the Aquatic Invasive Species surcharge and large groundwater user fees. The water

fee system is tiered, ensuring smaller water users will see nominal increases; and the AIS fee will shift from a flat fee to a sliding scale based on the type of watercraft, paid every three years.

— Sustainable Foraging Task Force: Foraging is a way to connect with the outdoors, learn about natural food systems, and is a treasured cultural heritage for many Minnesotans. It is also the only way to find some mushrooms, berries and vegetables. The Sustainable Foraging Task Force will deliver recommendations for foraging regulations on state lands that balance the needs of sustainability with Minnesotans’ right to forage.

— Legislative-Citizen Commission on Minnesota Resources (LCCMR) Recommendations: Minnesotans overwhelmingly reaffirmed their support for the Environment and Natural Resources Trust Fund in the 2024 election. This legislation protects and preserves our natural resources based on recommendations from the LCCMR; and new community grant funding will fund projects in communities affected by climate change, low-income communities, and other underserved areas.

— Abandoned Watercraft Penalties: Minnesota did not have a clear process to deal with abandoned or derelict watercraft, but as Minnesotans on the St. Croix River learned last summer, abandoned boats quickly become an eyesore and safety hazard. This legislation allows peace officers to tag abandoned boats on or near state waters and creates a process for the DNR and law enforcement to notify owners and press civil or criminal charges if necessary.

The bill will now move to the House for consideration.

SPRWS Expands Lead Service Line Replacement Program with Goal of 2, 500 Free Replacements in 2025

Jodi Wallin

Saint Paul Regional Water Services (SPRWS) is moving ahead in its goal to remove lead service lines from its water infrastructure—at no cost to property owners. The Lead Free SPRWS project was launched in 2022, and the number of replacements has doubled each year. For 2025, SPRWS is setting its sights on an ambitious target: replacing lead service lines at 2,500 properties.

Thanks to strong support from state and federal funding sources, the Lead Free SPRWS project is moving forward free for customers and without the need to raise water rates in 2025.

“Lead has no place in our drinking water system,” said Racquel Vaske, SPRWS general manager. “We’re making major strides to remove lead service lines, free of charge to our customers and we want to ensure that all those impacted are aware of the project and participate when offered the opportunity.”

Currently, about 20 percent of properties in the SPRWS service area are connected to the public water main with lead service lines. An additional six percent have lines made of unknown material, which SPRWS is treating as potential lead until confirmed otherwise.

To ensure no eligible property is overlooked, SPRWS has a robust outreach campaign. Efforts include direct mailings, phone calls, door-to-door visits, community meetings, and event appearances. Outreach teams and construction crews are already on the ground, connecting with residents in designated 2025 project areas to encourage participation.

Customers are encouraged to visit stpaul.gov/water/lead-free to check the material of their water service line using SPRWS’s interactive map. Property owners eligible for replacement this year have already been contacted by the utility and can easily express their interest by submitting a quick online intent form. Once submitted, SPRWS’s outreach team will follow up with next steps. If you have not been contacted by SPRWS for this year’s project area, you can still update your contact information on the map so that we have accurate information for when you become eligible.

For more information about the Lead Free SPRWS initiative or other SPRWS programs, please visit stpaul.gov/water.



Some Short Pieces of St. Paul History

Steve Trimble

June 3, 1900: *The St. Paul Globe* had an article on this day covering the opening of the Harriet Island Free Baths. There were ceremonies in the afternoon, lauding the city of St. Paul for possession of a finely appointed public bathing establishment, a gift to the city from Dr. Justus Ohage, head of the Municipal Department of Health.

Ohage mortgaged his home to pay for the land and to build two bath houses, a refreshment pavilion, gardens and trails. There also were a small restaurant for food and coffee and sandwiches, playgrounds, exercise grounds, and a little zoo.

The bathhouse was 320 feet long with separate men and women’s sides that opened onto the Mississippi and the swimming beaches were known as “public baths.” There were also a few lined bathing pools. There were attendants and swimming teachers. The laundry cleaned 5,000 suits and 10,000 towels every day.

Conditions of the gift were that no alcoholic liquors or cigarettes would be brought in or sold or given to others and that it remained under the Municipal Department of Health. There were thousands of summer visitors, but as sewage fouled the river, people turned away, and by the early 1920’s the baths and park features disappeared.

June 5, 1885: *The Western Appeal*, a St. Paul African American newspaper initially a six-column folio, made its debut on this



Minnesota Historical Society

The *Western Appeal*, a St. Paul African-American newspaper.

day. It became the most successful African-American newspaper in the city’s history. It came out every Friday containing news, editorials, advertisements, and a literary page. The paper struggled financially within a year. Two prominent St. Paul residents became the management team and provided job order printing services.

John Quincy Adams moved to St. Paul

from Kentucky in 1886 to work as the editor and became the driving force behind the newspaper. Adams was a strong Republican and expressed his opinions through the paper’s editorial page. The newspaper even received funding directly from the Republican Party, which was not unusual at the time. Adams soon fully owned the *Appeal* and supervised both its business and editorial sides. The newspaper boosted the community, expressed group frustrations and often called for action opposing racism.

As the twentieth century progressed, the *Appeal* slowly got smaller and closed its last regional office in 1913. Adams remained editor until his death in 1922. Adams’ son, John Jr., took over the *Appeal* and hired Roy Wilkins, then a young graduate student, as editor. The newspaper struggled, and only lasted another year.

June 9, 1898: The first golf course in Minnesota was opened for play at St. Paul’s Town and Country Club on this day. Its creation was not accepted easily. Early club member William F. Peet got a St. Paul newspaper to make a spurious report that the country club was interested in golf. George McCree, a transplanted Scot, who was familiar with the game, read the article and offered to help Peet. The two went on the club grounds in a roadster to mark out a possible course. Using an old driver and an early golf ball, McCree would take a few shots and marked a spot with a stake, saying “This is the first hole.” They laid out the initial five holes.

The Town & Country Club members initially were still skeptical. When money was requested to buy flags and other equipment to replace the buried soup cans and makeshift fishing poles, the proposal was rejected. They felt golf was a silly game that would never last. However, a few years later, \$2,000 was budgeted for the fast-growing sport. E. J. Frost, a well-known amateur golfer from Chicago, was hired to lay out Town & Country Club’s first nine-hole course.

June 11, 1899: The St. Paul Police Department formed a squad of twelve officers on bicycles on this day to deal with “wheelmen.” The city was part of a “bicycle mania” sweeping the country with clubs and sponsored races in the city. New businesses to sell and/or repair the new vehicles popped up. The parkways between major parks were improved to serve bicycles as well as horse-drawn carriages.

The first bicycling ordinances were enacted, setting a speed limit of eight miles per hour, keeping off most sidewalks, requiring warning bells and setting fines of up to fifty dollars. The fast “scorchers,” as they were called, refused to obey local bicycling rules and disregarded the safety of others. On opening day, the police bicycle squad assembled at Central Station to begin work clad in regulation suits with helmets and buff leggings that were inspected by Mayor Kiefer. The bicycle officers were paid an extra \$40 a year and had to purchase their own bicycles, probably assuming they would take better care of them if they were their own. They would ride from April until November weather permitting. The Police Chief ordered that any improper bicycling must be promptly punished. The new officers set up “speed traps” and after that, accidents dropped off.

June 18, 1918: The St. Paul Federation of Women Teachers, Local 28, began its history on this day as the first teacher’s union in Minnesota. They were affiliated with the Labor movement and the organization slowly grew in numbers. They usually worked with a smaller Men’s Federation that was organized in 1919.



Ramsey County Historical Society

The St. Paul Federation of Women Teachers.

They worked to convince the city to allow tenure and provide needed finances so education could flourish. Times were difficult during the Depression and salaries were slashed. At that time, the City Council ran the schools, and for decades, there had been low per capita financing and students had to buy their own textbooks.

Members increased, and after WWII, the separate Women’s and Men’s Federations gave notice of intent to strike and November 25, 1946, pickets soon appeared in front of the school buildings and was The walkout lasted weeks. The first teachers’ strike was carried out by 1,165 St. Paul educators, and it was the first organized teachers’ strike in the nation.

The City Council had finally agreed to support an amendment to separate school finances from the city budget, the teachers returned to work on December 28, 1946. The charter changes were passed in 1947 and an independent school board was soon established.

Friends of the Forum 2025

Make a donation today!

Greg Cosimini

Mark Gallagher

Ron Bardell

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 \$1,000 to produce per month. We have found a new printer and have adjusted the cost to print each 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 consider making a tax-deductible donation in 2025. Our goal for 2025 is \$2,500; will you help us reach our goal?

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 1368 Minnehaha Ave. E., St. Paul, MN 55106. For more information, daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support!

Read our paper online at daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org