Dayton’s Bluff team in annual Walk Against Weapons
Sage Holben, Wanda Pufpaff, Carla Riehle
Special to the Forum

On June 4, we will be joining the annual Walk Against Weapons sponsored by Women Against Military Madness (WAMM). It will begin at 10:30 a.m. at 1-04 and Riverside Avenue in Minneapolis and end at Cedar and Riverside. The walk is a major yearly fundraiser for WAMM and is aimed at stopping the use of U.S. military weapons overseas and at home. The goal is to raise $1,000 per team.

Please consider joining our contingent or supporting us by donating to WAMM. You can make your tax-deductible donation online at womenagainstmilitarymadness.org or by mailing a check to WAMM, 4200 Cedar Ave S., Minneapolis, MN 55407 (please designate the purpose of your contribution). You can also contact one of us on Facebook or by email at uppelto@gmail.com (Sage), carlariehle@gmail.com, or wandap58@yahoo.com.

Dayton’s Bluff to be featured on Minneapolis and St. Paul Home Tour
Karin DuPaul
Forum Staff

The annual Minneapolis and St. Paul Home Tour will be held on Saturday, April 30, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and Sunday, May 1, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. During the home tour, residents in both Minneapolis and St. Paul open their homes to the public to showcase the great things about city living.

For the past 20 years, Dayton’s Bluff has featured five to eight homes on the tour. The tour gives visitors a chance to see the many great features of Dayton’s Bluff: our convenient location, proximity to Metro State University, our parks, the growing business community, the views of the city and the Mississippi River, our wonderful residents, and the outstanding housing options in Dayton’s Bluff. The tour is hosted by the Minneapolis and St. Paul Home Tour, the cities of Minneapolis and Saint Paul, and the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council.

Tour brochures can be picked up at the Dayton’s Bluff Library on East 7th Street beginning in mid April. Dayton’s Bluff specific tour brochures can be picked up at any of the featured homes during the hours of the tour. Many people come here year after year to see the homes in Dayton’s Bluff, and some of the visitors over the years like it so well that they have made Dayton’s Bluff their home.

The addresses of Dayton’s Bluff homes on this year’s tour are 8 Bates, 400 Bates, 720 East 7th Street, 401 Maple, 833 Margaret, and 1064 Pacific all are open during tour hours. Two bonus stops which are only open on Saturday during tour hours are 324 Bates and the Historic Mounds Theatre at 1029 Hudson Road.

Dayton’s Bluff residents are needed to be volunteer neighborhood ambassadors to help make the Dayton’s Bluff leg of the home tour the best it can be. Tasks include greeting people at the door, giving out brochures and information about Dayton’s Bluff, and helping the homeowners for a few hours on either day. This is a chance to help positively promote our Dayton’s Bluff neighborhoods to visitors.

Neighborhood Ambassadors and families who have their homes on the tour are invited to an ‘After the Home Tour’ party. If you are interested in helping out, please email karin@swedehollow.org, or call Karin at 651-776-0550. For more information on the Minneapolis and St. Paul home tour, visit www.msphomeourtour.com, and visit www.dayton bluff.org for more information about the Dayton’s Bluff tour.
Preparación de Impuestos Gratis

Dayton's Bluff District Forum Board Meeting

The Forum is seeking help with writing, online content, idea generation, and ad sales. Join us at our next meeting at 9:00 a.m. on Wednesday, April 6, at the Stutzman Building, 725 E. 7th Street (above Swede Hollow Cafe). Call 651-776-0550 or email editor@downtowns-buff.org for more information.

SNAP Food Program at CLUES - Comunidades Latinas Unidas En Servicio

Dayton's Bluff Senior Center

SNAP 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! 612-746-3500. Our bilingual staff can facilitate the process for you and your family.

Dayton’s Bluff Senior Citizens

Children's Media and Music Festival

See below for more information.

Dayton's Bluff Seniors International Elders Day

On Monday, April 25, from noon to 3:00 p.m., enjoy snacks and entertainment from around the world as Dayton's Bluff Seniors celebrates International Elders Day. This event is free and takes place at First Lutheran Church, 463 Maria Avenue, St. Paul. For more information and to register, call 651-683-5226.

Dayton's Bluff Seniors International Elders Day

Little League Baseball

Parkway Little League's opening day is scheduled for Saturday, April 30. Located at 1130 East 3rd Street, just east of Earl, the organization will inaugurate its 61st season with an opening of a fourth field, testimony to its growing popularity as the only official Little League organization in St. Paul. Admission to games is free and the site hosts a concession stand with drinks, snacks and hot food available. Player spots may still be available for boys and girls this year, and volunteers are needed. Check the website at parkwaylittleleague.com, find them on Facebook or call 651-774-8113.

Dayton's Bluff Gardener’s

Garden plots are available at Skidmore Park Community Garden! Plots come in two sizes: 40 and 64 square feet for a fee of $25. Garden dimensions and rules are available online at http://bit.ly/BDQR7 or at the District 4 Community Council office. Applications are due by April 8. To receive a garden plot, attend orientation on April 11 at 6:00 p.m., at Skidmore Park Community Garden, 1085 E. 4th Street. Call 651-772-2075; juhnharbe@hotmail.com or jennifer.berman7@gmail.com.

Dayton's Bluff Senior Citizens

Connect with others while you taste and enjoy deserts and coffee provided by the Dayton's Bluff Rec Center! To sign up, call 651-793-3885. Select your choice of dessert and drink, and meet with friends at the Dayton's Bluff Rec Center, located at 800 Conway Street, St. Paul.

Dayton's Bluff Senior Citizens

The New Mounds Theatre

The Eastern District Police will host their monthly meetings for community members at the Eastern District Police Office at 722 Payne Avenue, on the corner of Payne and Minnehaha Avenues. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 20, at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Meetings are intended as a time to learn about, listen to, and address concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

Dayton's Bluff Senior Citizens

The Saint Paul Police Eastern District is committed to maintaining and growing the quality of life for all residents. Bring your neighbors – it is a great time to talk about all neighborhood issues.

Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship

The Nellie Stone Johnson Scholarship is accepting applications until June 1. Eligible students must be a racial minority or be a child, grandchild, or spouse of a union member. Scholarships are awarded to both full-time and part-time students who will attend a MnSCU tech, community college, or state university in the fall of 2016. Scholarships range from $2,000 to $5,000. Visit nstj@gmail.com or call 651-738-1404 for more information. Applications are available online at nellietone.org or by calling 651-738-5283.

Dayton's Bluff Senior Citizens

Next month's SNAP program events include: Food and Hot Meals available at the Dayton's Bluff Senior Center on Tuesday, April 12, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Food and Hot Meals available at the Dayton's Bluff Senior Center on Wednesday, April 13, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Food and Hot Meals available at the Dayton's Bluff Senior Center on Thursday, April 14, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Food and Hot Meals available at the Dayton's Bluff Senior Center on Friday, April 15, from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For more information, call 651-793-3885.
Debbie’s Doghouse
Owned and Operated by Debbie Diaz

Mark Gallagher
Associate Editor

A love of dogs, a passion for people and dogs, and the desire to form relationships with people inspired Debbie Diaz to start a dog-grooming business in 2001. She moved Debbie’s Dog House from 367 Earl Street in 2015 — right across from Leo’s Chow Mein. “My husband and I installed a brand new tub with a shower,” Debbie said. “We had to put in a new floor and make everything new — it’s really nice.”

“I started out as a dog trainer and have been one longer than I have been a dog groomer,” Debbie said. “I have a two-year degree in veterinary science and became a veterinary technician. As I was doing an internship, I saw a groomer in back grooming a dog and thought that was pretty cool. I’m kind of an artist and grooming is somewhat artistic — I was really intrigued.”

Debbie decided to become a dog groomer and went to pet-grooming school at Anoka Hennepin Technical College. “I got paid better as a veterinary technician,” Debbie said. “I just enjoy seeing a dog come in that’s not been groomed in a while and then making the dog look really nice.”

In her business, Debbie grooms dogs and cats. “I have done cats for many years; 80 percent of groomers do not do cats, but I do,” she said. “Cats are a feline not a canine, and do not do cats, but I do,” she said. “Cats are a feline not a canine, and do not do cats, but I do,” she said. “Cats are a feline not a canine, and do not do cats, but I do,” she said. “Cats are a feline not a canine, and do not do cats, but I do.”

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Debbie’s parents had dogs through- out her childhood. “I remember we had huskies and malamutes,” she said. “When I was about two or three, I used to climb inside the doghouse, sit with the dogs, and take them for walks. I was always outside with the dogs; I just hung out with them.”

Currently, Deb has a 13-year-old fawn Doberman Pinscher, and she’s had six Dobermans and shown three of them. “My dog is a retired show dog,” Debbie said. “Most people don’t know there are four colors of Doberman — black, red, blue, and fawn, which is a light brown.”

Debbie believes that most dogs are pretty easy to work with. “It doesn’t matter so much about breed as it depends on temperament,” she said. “Temperament is most important; most dogs are really good, but you want to make sure your dog is socialized and trained.”

A meet and greet open house is planned for Sunday, April 10, from noon until 4:00 p.m. “I want to offer free spa, which is a $14.00 value, when they get their dog or cat groomed. Debbie is available to groom your dog or cat by appointment Wednesday through Sunday from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. On Monday and Tuesday she is on call at a veterinary hospital but will still be open for business.

Debbie lives in Dayton’s Bluff and thinks the area is great; she has been living there for twenty years. Her contact information is: phone: 651-242-2318 and e-mail address: debdi az70@yahoo.com.

Debbie would like to give a special mention to Rita Mealey for all her help. She was also Debbie’s first cus- tomer and a neighbor of hers.

Mark Gallagher is the associate edi- tor of the Dayton’s Bluff District Forum and a graduate of Metropolitan State University. Mark can be reached at refi- netEditorial@gmail.com.
Metropolitan State University
Science Education Center
Grand Opening Celebration

Community Open House
Friday, April 22, 2016
3–6 p.m.

The opening of the new Science Education Center at Metropolitan State University provides metro area students with an opportunity for extraordinary science education at an affordable cost.

Join us for our Community Open House—everyone is welcome!

• Tours
• Meet faculty, staff and students
• Refreshments
• Park free in the Maria Avenue ramp

Metropolitan State University
Coming up with a mission statement

Jane Prince, Ward 7 – City Council

When I was campaigning for office last year, I had the pleasure of meeting many of you to find out your priorities for Saint Paul. I heard your concerns about speeding traffic, potholes, trash and debris, and about issues like redesigning the Margaret playground, improving East Seventh Street, and making our neighborhoods safer.

One of the most memorable conversations I had was with one of my Somali neighbors. When I asked, “What is most important to the Somali community in Saint Paul?” he answered without hesitation, “I think it’s the same thing that is important to everyone in Saint Paul: the success of our children.”

I have thought about that conversation every day since I arrived at City Hall. If we can build a city where all our children can be successful, then it is naturally going to be a city that is safe and healthy; where neighborhoods are clean and well maintained; where businesses are successful; where parks, recreation centers, community and cultural resources develop our bodies and minds; and where good schools and libraries prepare lifelong learners for good jobs.

The more I thought about it, I realized it is a great mission statement for those of us who work at City Hall. “Our Mission is to Build a City Where All Our Children Can Succeed.” It is a tall order, but it is one that focuses our work. When we are deciding between competing priorities, we can ask, “Which one gets us closer to being a city that helps all of our children succeed?”

This question has galvanized a couple of the tough decisions I’ve had to make as your city councilmember. And the one that has probably gotten the most attention is my vote against the development of a Major League Soccer Stadium for Minnesota United at I-94 and Snelling Avenue.

I don’t think the MLS stadium is nearly as bad a deal as most of the sports palaces we’ve built with public funds in Minnesota. Minnesota United will spend $128-plus million to build and maintain the stadium and will donate it to the City. The City will immediately commit $18.4 million to cover the hard and soft costs of building streets and sidewalks around the stadium.

The kick for me is that Minnesota United would only do the deal if the City agreed to give them a permanent property tax exemption. That public subsidy is estimated by the local media to be conservatively about $2 million per year, or $100 million dollars over the 50-year term of the team’s agreement.

Property tax dollars are what we use to hire police officers, firefighters, city inspectors, public works engineers, recreation directors, park workers and librarians, and all the equipment, vehicles, books and computers they all need to provide city services... You get the idea. Without property taxes from this beautiful new soccer stadium, the City doesn’t get one dollar closer to helping our children be successful. Over the past eight years, Ward 7 has lost FOUR recreation centers: Margaret Recreation Center, Eastview Recreation Center was leased to a gym, which is closed to the public, Conway Recreation Center was leased to the Sanneh Foundation, which offers wonderful youth programming, but discontinued important senior citizen programs; and Highwood Hills Recreation Center was closed.

Our kids have told our police officers that adults obviously don’t care about them, because we’ve closed the places they used to play. And police officers tell us that when we close a rec center, you can set your watch to the moment when kids without a place to play and let off steam will be drawn into unsafe and unhealthy activities.

City leaders who support the soccer stadium believe that it will have a positive impact on property values in the Midway. By their estimate, in five to 10 to 20 years, the property tax base should grow enough to invest in our children’s success.

This type of speculative use of public dollars is what some might call “trickle-down economics.” And by my estimation, it’s just not a good, mission-driven investment.

Rep. Sheldon Johnson wants you to know about:

INTERNATIONAL ELDERS’ DAY

Dayton’s Bluff Senior Services and I would like to invite you to be a part of the first International Elders’ Day. At the event, seniors and elders from the community will gather to share and to learn about their neighbors, resources and services available in the community.

Join us for:

An informational booth or table: Share information about your organization and the people it serves. This is a great opportunity to increase awareness of your work, your culture and your community.

Food and snacks: Share your culture’s unique cuisine with a donation of items representing the food and refreshments that best represent your culture.

Sponsorship: Show your commitment to the community by becoming a sponsor supporting this year’s event. If you are interested in a sponsorship, please contact Janet Golden at (651) 237-7853 for more information.

Spread the word: All seniors, family and caregivers are invited to attend. Include event information in your newsletters and bulletin boards.

Provide a ride: Volunteer to drive a senior to the event or arrange for your organization’s van to pick up and drop off participants.

What: International Elders’ Day
Where: First Lutheran Church (463 Maric Ave, Saint Paul)
When: Monday, April 25, 2016 from 12:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Rep. Sheldon Johnson
Batter Up! A Bit of Bluff Baseball

Steve Tribble, Forum Historian

Play Ball! It’s April and baseball season is just around the corner. I thought this might be a good time to take a look back at some history of the game in our neighborhood. To begin with, Parkway Little League is celebrating its 61st anniversary and the addition of a new fourth field at their current location at 1130 East Third Street. There have also been generations of baseballers playing for schools, churches, recreation centers, and adult leagues usually sponsored by area businesses. Here are some of our local sports memories.

A young batter stepped up to the first ball ever pitched in a Parkway Little League game at a temporary location on June 6, 1955. A group, led by Howard Dahlquist soon bought several lots in a deep gully that was once part of Rifle Lake, and they formed their permanent ballpark. Play there started on June 5, 1956, with four major and 14 farm teams in Little League and four major and two farm teams in Pony League. The rest is history.

The organization is still going strong with baseball for all ages as well as softball and other local legend is Henry Gehring, born into a large family of Swiss immigrants in St. Paul on January 24, 1881. “Hank,” as he was known, developed his skills on local amateur clubs. When Gehring married, he and his wife lived at 852 East 7th Street in 1906. The next year he traded for a Russian family. They settled near Obb’s Bar. Walt bought three acres on Hudson Road (now St. Paul Saints uniform, circa 1908-1911.)

George Washington Bridge. I saw a large rat (a first for me!) and the beautiful gullies that were once part of Rifle Lake, and they formed their permanent ballpark. Play there started on June 5, 1956, with four major and 14 farm teams in Little League and four major and two farm teams in Pony League. The rest is history.

The organization is still going strong with baseball for all ages as well as softball and even beyond. The organization is still going strong and has now expanded beyond baseball into various adult leagues usually sponsored by area businesses.

The other local legend is Henry Gehring, born into a large family of Swiss immigrants in St. Paul on January 24, 1881. “Hank,” as he was known, developed his skills on local amateur clubs. When Gehring married, he and his wife lived at 852 East 7th Street in 1906. The next year he traded to the Chicago Cubs, where he started in the Majors with the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1908. He was known as a “junkball” spitball pitcher who was also a fine bater. He also played for teams in Minneapolis, Duluth, Des Moines, Wichita, and for the Minneapolis Millers. His big break came when he was called up to the majors by the struggling Washington Senators and was on their roster in 1907 and 1908. When Hank was released, he was picked up by the Kansas City Blues. In April 1912, Gehring fell ill in a Kansas City hotel. He was suffering uremic poisoning caused by kidney problems and died at the hospital at 1:30 a.m. on April 18, 1912.

Hank’s body was brought back to St. Paul where services were held at the German Reformed Church at Reaney and Forest. A few weeks later, the St. Paul Saints and the visiting Kansas City Blues agreed to schedule a “Henry Gehring Benefit Game” and dedicated the entire Lexington Park gate proceeds to his widow and daughter. Two thousand people—the largest gate that showed up—raised $1,500 (around $30,000 today) for the family. The sum was later used to build a spot on the Minor League Roll of Honor.

The story isn’t over yet. Henry’s remains are resting on a hillside in Forest Lawn Cemetery. The grave site has a flower pot marked Gehring, but there is no headstone. With the help of a family member, we located a headstone and wrote a letter to the park. A family member wrote back that they had gotten a ride to take him to upper Manhattan, Washington Heights. When we arrived at Sam’s house, I filled my bags in Sam’s comforting apartment.

On my second day in New York, Sage and I decided to go to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. On our way there, we went through the northeast side of Central Park. Central Park is in comparable to any park in Minnesota (don’t get me wrong, we have beautiful parks here!) It’s a park filled with manicured beautiful gardens within. We walked south and met a woman who took pictures of small things. That conversation inspired me to take everything in the city with appreciation.

When we got to the MET, we saw that the many exhibits inside the museum represent events that can engage our daily lives and the material we learn. Sage then took me to Fifth Avenue and many other museums, including the Guggenheim, Jewish Museum, and the Cooper Hewitt. We also went to Grand Central Station that same day. I expected to see a store full of people and trains. However, Grand Central had many shops and restaurants. That was very unexpected and amazing. Tip: When you go to Grand Central Station, don’t forget to look up! In the ceiling, there’s beautiful constellations lined with gold and lights.

The next day, Sage and I went to watch the Macy’s parade on Columbus Circle. We managed to see a few balloons, but they’re not as big as they appear on television. We then went home on the A train.

The rest of the day was quiet and I decided to check out more of Washington Heights. I walked along the side-walks of the Hudson River Greenways. I saw a large rat (a first for me!) and the famous George Washington Bridge. Then I walked over to Dunkin Donuts and got myself a French cruller. I returned to Sam’s apartment and worked on my college applications. The evening passed quickly. On my third day, Sage and I took a trip to Mother Cabrini’s Shrine. Mother Cabrini was a prominent figure in the immigrant and impoverished communities in New York City. It was an amazing experience for me knowing she had helped communities to which my family belonged.

Sage took Sam and me to the Museum of Modern Art. This was an absolute dream of mine. I feel surreal seeing art pieces that I only see in books. It is a huge misconception if you plan to go through the entire museum within a day. There is so much to see and take in! I saw Claude Monet and Frida Kahlo’s paintings. Seeing these art pieces in person is an out-of-this-world experience. Growing up watching Kahlo’s movies and seeing Monet’s paintings and postcards -- to finally see the pieces in person? It’s truly nostalgic!

On Saturday, Sage, Sam, and I went to the Brooklyn Cyclones to take a short tour from Sam’s friend, Alicia. Unfortunately, most of the campus was closed for Thanksgiving week. During the tour, we visited the library. That day, we also visited the famous Strand bookstore located at 828 Broadway. The store, filled with any imaginable book, was a store full of the must-read books. We walked on the University campus and got a cab that would take us into upper Manhattan. That evening, we went to the Shakespeare theater located off-broadway. The musical was a must-see. We ended the day with a trip to the Met Museum. That evening, we went to Times Square again. Besides the neon specs, Times Square is not fun. It is a place full of millions of people. I think it is definitely worth seeing once. The Matilda musical was another highlight. The musical took place at the Shubert Theater located off-broadway. The musical was a must-see. We ended the day with a trip to the Met Museum.

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What's in a name?
Andrew Koetz
Special to the Forum

What's the meaning behind the signs along the railroad tracks throughout St. Paul's East Side, from down by North Star Steel up to the St. Paul Union Depot and on other railroads and locations? There is history behind the names on those “station signs” as the railroads call them. Starting right before Dayton's Bluff by the Bruce Vento Trail and Sanctuary, there is a station sign reading “DI-VISION STREET.” There is no Division Street in St. Paul in that immediate area. The main reason this location was so named is that St. Paul was the beginning of one of the many railroads that ran into St. Paul.

Heading down river (eastbound) toward Chicago there are three more station signs: West Hoffman Ave., Hoffman Ave., and a third by the twin Wame

road bridges — East Hoffman Ave. Back in the 1800s, what we all know as Mounds Boulevard today was once known as Hoffman Avenue. The railroad carried over the “Hoffman Ave.” name and it stayed, as all railroad time known as Hoffman Avenue. The railroad carried over the St. Paul.

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VISION STREET.”

Road bridges — East Hoffman Ave. Back in the 1800s, what we all know as Mounds Boulevard today was once known as Hoffman Avenue. The railroad carried over the “Hoffman Ave.” name and it stayed, as all railroad time

The train crews would break down the line as the section from Westminster Junction to White Bear Avenue as the St. Paul sub and from the other side of White Bear Avenue to Century Avenue as the “Hazel Park Sub,” and when they got to the other side of Century Avenue it was the “Lake Elmo Sub” all the way to the St. Croix River bridge where it crossed into Wisconsin at “SONO Junction” which is another historical name for “Soo Line-Northern Pacific Junction,” as the Northern Pacific worked the city of St. Paul. Ten years ago when logging in northern Minnesota was a booming business. This was also where the Soo Line and Northern Pacific crossed each other.

The rails that have been long pulled up by the Burlington Northern through Swede Hollow were the Northern Pacific’s tracks to Duluth. This is the faster run to Duluth than going to Superior. Also tying into the Great Northern tracks at Westminister Junction (this can be seen from the Phalen Parkway bridge) is the former Chicago & Northwestern line to Chicago. This line, as it goes east past the Hamm’s Brewery is the “Altona Subdivision” as a whole, but I have heard on my scanner crews calling out where they are by the neighborhood(s) they are going through.

There are factual stories behind the station signs I mention in this article and the towns on both sides the Mississippi River between St. Paul and LaCrosse that can easily be Googled. The hobby of “chasing trains” for some people is just that — I delve into the history of ar
computers in the 20th century, some very talented local artists,” said Brosdahl.

High Class Comics has over 15,000 comic books. The selection is very, very impressive. Titles include everything from the well-known Marvel superhero, to self-published, local independent artists. The shop also includes a large number of action figures and a selection of comic related books.

Superheroes move into our super neighborhood
Nick Duncan
Forum Staff

Anyone who's spent ten minutes in Dayton's Bluff knows what a super neighborhood we have — now we have the super heroes to go with it. This spring marked the grand opening of High Class Comics, located at 371 Earl Street. After many years in South Minneapolis, Bjorn Brosdahl, owner and proprietor of High Class Comics, moved his operation to Dayton's Bluff. Brosdahl, a Minneapolis native, knew little about our neighborhood before relocating. In Brosdahl's words, "I knew it was one of the oldest neighborhoods in the cities and the rent was very reasonable."

Since moving in, he has been pleasantly surprised by his new neighbors. "I've met quite a few local comic enthusiasts in the neighborhood and some very talented local artists," said Brosdahl.

High Class Comics, located at 371 Earl Street, is open daily from noon to 8:00 p.m. Visit highclasscomics.com for more information and "like" them at facebook.com/highclasscomics.

CENTROMEX SUPERMERCADO
OPEN MON-SAT 8:00 AM - 8:00 PM
816 East 7th Street, St. Paul, MN 651-799-4912

Now Serving DQ Cupcakes
Free candles with DQ Cake purchase
Bring this ad in and buy one Matt, Shake, or Blizzard, and get one FREE

You can use this ad four times this month

April 2016
Dayton’s Bluff District Forum Page 7
Have Forum, will travel...

Several readers sent us pictures of themselves reading our newspaper on their travels. If you’d like to do the same, please email photos to editor@daytonsbluff.org.

The Johnston brothers, Central High School graduates, packed the Forum for their visit to the Grand-Place Brussels in Belgium.

St. Pascal boys basketball team wins championship

Meg Gronau
Special to the Forum

The St. Pascal boys seventh and eighth grade basketball team won the Catholic Athletic Association — Twin Cities Class D championship on March 6. The St. Pascal Knights defeated St. Anne’s of Somerset, Wisconsin, 36-29 in the final game.

Though the St. Pascal boys had won only one regular-season game, they worked hard all season, staying positive and encouraging each other, according to coach Joe Hommes. The team gained some confidence at the SEAS Tournament in Hastings, where eighth-grader Matt Ray received a trophy and made the All Tournament Team. Their momentum continued at the St. Peter Tournament the following weekend, where the Knights won the consolation championship, losing only to the eventual champions.

“I really believe that chemistry was essential to the team’s success,” Hommes said. “The forwards worked hard in practice on their drop step technique, while the guards worked hard on shooting and good passing.”

According to Hommes, the team demonstrated excellent cohesion, particularly during their defensive press. “They were all in the correct positions, understanding each other, according to coach Joe Hommes. The team gained some confidence at the SEAS Tournament in Hastings, where eighth-grader Matt Ray received a trophy and made the All Tournament Team. Their momentum continued at the St. Peter Tournament the following weekend, where the Knights won the consolation championship, losing only to the eventual champions.

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Many of the players are active in theater, music ministry, band, volunteering, Science Fair, and many other activities at St. Pascal’s and in the community. When some athletes struggled with grades early in the year, Hommes instituted a 30-minute pre-practice study period, allowing older and younger players to work together on homework.

And with spring arriving, the St. Pascal athletes are picking up momentum for their next season. “They have a real passion for baseball,” Hommes said. “They can hardly wait to get outside and start hitting the ball.”

The St. Pascal boys basketball team includes eighth-graders Peter Hommes, Matthew Ray, Dillon Schweitzer, and Joe Tisch, and seventh-graders Greg Goedeker, Sam Malec, Patrick Wanschura, Max Weber, and Aiden Wolfard. The Knights are coached by Joe Hommes and Rob Malec.

St. Pascal’s is a Catholic School and Church community located at 1757 Conway Street, at White Bear Avenue and 3rd Street on the East Side of St. Paul. See stpascals.org for more information.

Margaret Street Bikeway Spring Ride

Brad Griffith, Special to the Forum

On Saturday, May 14, the Stewards of Margaret Park (STOMP) will be sponsoring a spring ride on the Margaret Street Bikeway.

At press time, the details of the ride were still being finalized, but preliminary plans are for a bike maintenance and safety clinic. The ride will begin and end at Bethlehem Lutheran Church, located at 655 Forest Street. A celebration picnic will follow.

There will be two ride opportunities: one from Mendota Street to Johnson Parkway and back, and another from Mendota Street to McKnight Road and back.

“Like” STOMP on Facebook to be updated on the Spring Ride on the Margaret Street Bikeway by visiting face book.com/stompmn or contact Brad Griffith at 651-263-2830 or bradgriffith@edinarealty.com.

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Brad Griffith, Special to the Forum
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