National Night Out “ramps up” in Dayton’s Bluff

Dayton’s Bluff Community Council
National Night Out in Dayton’s Bluff continues to grow and attract more and more residents and businesses. We had fifteen events scheduled this year, an increase of four over last year. Again, this year, the Dayton’s Bluff Neighborhood Housing Service provided a small grant to help promote and support National Night Out events in the community. I was able to visit all but one of the events and estimate we had nearly 1400 persons at these events. Four of them attract around 200 persons each, some come and stay for several hours, others come for an hour or so then leave. A few events have as few as 20, many others see 60-80. The events also attracted several Census workers who were not encouraging our community’s participation in the National Census next year. They passed out small gifts, including a Chinese Fortune Cookie with the legend “Answer the 2010 Census” inside (www.mn2010census.org).

The Saint Paul Police Horse patrol was at several events, their dog patrols at several as well. The horses drew a lot of attention at the Swede Hollow event at Greenbrier and Margaret Sts. Their handlers were gracious and the horses seemed quite patient with all of the attention, particularly from the many kids who wanted to pet them and get real close. This event had a lively band called The Next Exit, led by Kirk Larson (an area neighbor), which had a rapt crowd jumping. They have played at this event for the past several years. The event at 5th St. E., between Maria and Mounds Blvd., is well attended each year. They had pony rides for the kids, as they typically do, but this year many were wondering if it would happen because the owner had health problems recently and was thought to (maybe) be unable to bring them. They were there, however, to the delight of the kids riding the ponies with the St. Paul city skyline behind them. Two trucks arrived from the St. Paul Fire Dept. and many folks came to talk to the fire fighters and look over the impressive equipment they work with.

The event at 1300 Conway (sponsored by the Saint Paul Federal Credit Union and always one of the larger ones) seemed even larger than last year. They always have hot food, a clown, and a large air-filled jumping tent for the kids. The clown was making, and giving away, colorful “balloon creatures” to the delight of the herds of kids around him. The event on Reaney Avenue, between Forest and Cypress, had a professional magician sponsored by Budget Towing with financial help from Metro Liquor Warehouse. The Brodini Comedy Magic Show (www.brodini.com) set up shop on a front porch and enthralled everyone with his amazing tricks and surprises. The Great Brodini has been a fixture at this event for the past several years.

New this year was a huge outdoor movie screen sponsored by Comcast at the Margaret Recreation Center site. They saw Kung Fu Panda for free, outdoors, on a mosquito free evening. One of the larger events, they ran out of hot dogs (260 on hand), and also went through some 300 bags of popcorn. Estimates are that over 200 adults and kids were there for part or all of the evening.

Another new event took place at 4th and Bates sponsored by the 4th and Bates Block Club. Theirs focused on “a Paint the Pavement” project they implemented that evening. Right in the center of the intersection is a large and colorful image intended to serve as “a traffic calmer,” and as a source of pride for the area. Check it out and consider whether your area should do one as well.

Each event is different and involves different people. The Beech/Margaret 654 Block Club had a large gathering in the parking lot of the Bethlehem Lutheran Church (Forest and Margaret). Several folks set up a tent and were creatively painting the faces of the many kids on hand. Mounds Park (at the pavilion) had a charming event, including roasted corn, and entertainment by an excellent four-person Celtic Band Barns (www.harraband.com), “National Night Out” continued on page 3

By Ed Lambert, Executive Director, Dayton’s Bluff Community Council

The focus of the 4th and Bates Block Club National Night Out event was a “Paint the Pavement” project at their intersection.

September Events
Thursday September 3 Community Meeting
Saturday September 12 Neighborhood Cleanup
Sunday September 13 Sacred Heart Fall Festival
Wednesday September 16 “Fun-Raiser” at Davanni’s
Thursday September 17 Truman Smith talk at the Gibb’s Museum
Monday September 21 Filing to run for a seat on Community Council closes
Friday September 25 Swede Hollow “Watch the Glow of the Setting Sun”
Saturday September 26 Swede Hollow Art Fest

Dayton’s Bluff District 4 Community Council
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Eat pizza and support community at Sept. 16 Davanni’s Fun-Raiser

The Dayton’s Bluff District Council is teaming up with Davanni’s Pizza and Hot Hoagies to raise money for community programs on Wednesday September 16, 2009 from 5 to 8 p.m. at their White Bear Avenue location.

It’s called a Fun-Raiser because it is a fun and easy way for local residents to support the local District Council. All you have to do is plan on having dinner at Davanni’s between 5 and 8 p.m. for eat in or take-out (does not apply to deliveries). When ordering, give the staff your voucher when you pay for your meal. (Vouchers available at the Council office, 798 E. 7th St., 651-772-2075).

“Fun-Raiser” continued on page 6
Dayton's Bluff Community Meeting

The next Community Meeting is Thursday, September 3rd from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the meeting room at the Dayton's Bluff Community Council, 798 East 7th Street at the corner of 7th and Margaret The Dayton’s Bluff Community Council holds its Community Meeting on the first Tuesday of most months. The purpose of the meeting is to work with block clubs and neighborhood residents on problem properties, criminal and nuisance behavior, code enforcement issues and any other neighborhood issues, concerns, and/or new ideas for improvement in Dayton’s Bluff. If you can get me the addresses of properties ahead of time I can get them to the police and code enforcement. Then they can bring information about the problems to the meeting. All Dayton’s Bluff residents are welcome to attend. If you need more information email Karin@DaytonsBluff.org or call Karin at 651-772-2075.

Meet with the police

The Eastern District Police host their neighborhood meetings next to the 7th Street Recreation Center at 722 Payne on the corner of Payne and Minnehaha Avenues. One is on the third Wednesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. and the other on the third Friday of each month at 9:30 a.m. In addition to the neighborhood meetings those meetings are on the 16th and 18th. The meetings are intended as a time to listen to and address people’s concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

Next Take a Hike will be in October

Dayton’s Bluff Take a Hike occurs on the first Saturday of most months. The next hike is on Saturday, Oct. 3rd. There is a hike in September. We meet at 10:30 a.m. in Indian Mounds Park at Earl St. and Mounds Blvd. We’ll hike from Mounds Park to the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary and then walk along the Bruce Vento Recreational Trail through Swede Hollow Park to the new East Side Heritage Park. Along the way we will share stories and learn some local history of the area. The hike is about four miles long with some moderately rough terrain. Transportation will be available to return to Mounds Park, if needed. Join us and explore some of our parks and trails along the Bruce Vento Trail. For more information contact Karin at 651-772-2075 or Karin@DaytonsBluff.org.

Get rid of a junk car

Budget Towing of Minnesota, Minnesota’s largest towing company, is owned by Roy Carlson, an active Dayton’s Bluff Community Council board member. Budget Towing will remove any junk car or truck—located anywhere in Saint Paul—and dispose of it at no charge to the vehicle owner or the property owner where it is located. The vehicle owner will receive paperwork for a tax donation, and Roy will also make a small donation to the Community Council for each car he tows. Just call Karin at 651-772-2075 to find out how you can get a junk car out of the way—and help clean up Dayton’s Bluff.

Fall Dayton’s Bluff Vacant Home Tour

The Fall Dayton’s Bluff Vacant Home Tour will be held on Sunday, September 20. On this day, residents are able to take a bus tour through several vacant homes in the Dayton’s Bluff area. The bus tour will start at 10 a.m. at the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council. It will end at 4 p.m. at the Dayton’s Bluff Community Center. For more information, please contact Karin DuPaul at 651-772-2075 or SwedeHollow@gmail.com. or call SwedeHollow 651-772-2075.

Watch the Glow of the Setting Sun

The Art Fest will start at 10:00 a.m. on Saturday, Sept. 26, 2009 in Swede Hollow Park. This event will give park visitors an opportunity to see artists at work in the open-air setting of Swede Hollow, which is especially lovely in autumn. Children are welcome and fall will be provided for them to draw Swede Hollow scenes of their own along the paved paths.

Swede Hollow Plain Air Art Fest

Swede Hollow Plain Air Art Fest is a new art festival that features artists and arts of all kinds that are based in the greater Twin Cities area. Participating artists include painters, sculptors, photographers, and others. This festival is open to everyone, regardless of age or skill level. The festival will take place on Saturday, September 26th from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. at the Margaret Rec Center. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, please visit SwedeHollow Plain Air Art Fest online or call 651-776-0550.

Dayton’s Bluff business class

The next Dayton’s Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Class is starting in September 2009. This program helps start-up and young businesses on the East Side. All East Side entrepreneurs are welcome.

Class training lasts 8 weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, one to one assistance with creating a successful business, and preparing a business plan, plus 8 hours of one on one 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 and works of art, custom floral design for weddings and events, 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 fee based on a sliding fee scale. The next session will start in September 2009 and class size is limited.

Please call Karin at 651-772-2075 or email Karin@DaytonsBluff.org for an application.

Block club meetings

* Wilson Avenue Block Club meets on the second Wednesday of each month at Mounds Park United Methodist Church, at Earl and Euclid, at 6:30 p.m.

* Lower Dayton’s Bluff Block Club Kickball meets on the second to the last Tuesday of each month at Dayton’s Bluff Rec Center at 800 Conway at 6:30 p.m. Kids and parents are welcome. Kids play, parents talk.

* Margarate Rec Center Block Club meets on the second Thursday of each month at the Margarate Rec Center, at Margaret and Frank, at 6:30 p.m.

* Beech/Margaret 654 Block Club meets on the last Thursday of each month at the Bethel Lutheran Church at Margaret and Forest at 6:30 pm. This block club covers the area Minnehaha, Beech Margaret, 6th, 5th, and 4th between Cypress and Arcadia.

* Frank Street Block Club meets on the third Wednesday of each month at Immanuel City of Refuge Healing Temple at 815 Frank Street at 6 p.m. This block club encompasses 7th, Ross, Bush, Reaney, and Minnehaha between Earl and Frank.

If you wish to have your block club listed, or need information about starting your own block club, please contact Karin at 651-772-2075 or Karin@DaytonsBluff.org.

Fall Dayton’s Bluff Vacant Home Tour

The Fall Dayton’s Bluff Vacant Home Tour will be held on Sunday, September 20. Once again attendees will be able to take a bus tour through several vacant homes in the Dayton’s Bluff area. The bus tour will start at 10 a.m. at the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council. It will end at 4 p.m. at the Dayton’s Bluff Community Center. For more information, please contact Karin DuPaul at 651-772-2075 or SwedeHollow@gmail.com. or call SwedeHollow 651-772-2075.
Save Time and Money - Support Neighborhood Businesses

Bud & Al’s Brake Services - A great stop in Dayton’s Bluff

By June Bennett

Here’s to another great Dayton’s Bluff family-run business!

Bud and Al’s Brake Services, located at 695 Arcade, have been keeping neighborhood cars running smoothly for over fifty years. Joel Weis began running the station in 1956, originally located on Earl St. across from the Dairy Queen (which at that time was called Fancy Freeze). Brothers Larry and Gary Weis started working for their father after school and during the summers. After graduating from high school, both brothers attended TVI Mechanic School. After graduating, they spent nine years working at their father’s business. Then, the brothers continued working as mechanics, Larry at Merit Chevrolet and Gary at Arrow Pontiac, and both taught night school at TVI.

In March of 1976, Gary and Larry Weis took over their father’s business which had moved to their current Arcade Ave. location. Which, of course, begs the question: Who are Bud & Al? Bud and Al were the previous owners, but the Weis family decided to keep the business’ name.

The Weis brothers remember that in the 40s and 50s there were seven service stations in the Dayton’s Bluff area and all were doing fine business. In fact, Taqueria Los Paisanos located near Bud & Al’s was once a service station. Both Gary and Larry would like to see more businesses come to the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood. On a personal note, Larry has seven children and twelve grandchildren and is very pleased that his oldest grandson graduated high school this year. Larry is also honored that two of his sons have followed in his footsteps and become mechanics - just as Larry and Gary followed in their father’s footsteps. Gary has three children - one son who is also a mechanic and a granddaughter who is considering learning the family profession.

Walking into Bud and Al’s Brake Service is like taking a step back in time. The shop is decorated with all sorts of antique signs and vintage collectables. The charm and warmth of the owners are felt immediately. Now that you know where the experienced mechanics are in the Dayton’s Bluff, drop in and say hello to Gary and Larry and enjoy the experience of service with a smile.

Bud & Al’s Brake Service is located at 695 Arcade Ave. 651-776-2364.

Census Day April 1, 2010 is coming!

What is the Census?
The Census is our country’s attempt to count every person living in the United States. The Census is mandated by the U.S. Constitution and takes place every 10 years.

Is the Census form hard to fill out?

No. The Census form will only have 10 questions on it that can be completed in 10 minutes. The response envelope is postage-paid so all you have to do is fill out the form and mail it. It won’t cost you any money. That’s it easy!

For more information Contact: Leila Pavy 651-266-8916

School’s back in session and the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood is full of young people. According to the 2000 Census, 35% of the residents were under 18 years old. Many of these children attend the elementary schools in our neighborhood - Dayton’s Bluff Achievement Plus; World Cultures Magnet & American Indian Magnet Schools.

Some students really benefit from the opportunity to work with a tutor on learning reading, writing, math and other subjects. Would you like to reach out to one of these students? Say, “Yes!” If you are available either Tuesdays or Thursdays from 3:45 – 5:15 p.m. during the school year and would like to tutor a 2nd or 3rd grade student, please call and leave a message for the Reading Rocks! Coordinator at 651-774-8736.

Reading Rocks! is an after school tutoring program at Mounds Park United Methodist Church, 1049 Euclid (corner of Earl & Euclid). You would be paired with one student and guided in offering that student opportunities to enhance his or her learning by reading together, playing educational games, working on phonetics, etc.

If our program doesn’t fit into your schedule and you are available during the school day, please call one of the local schools directly to volunteer. Or if you are available in the evenings, a local library, such as the Dayton’s Bluff Branch Library on E. 7th St., may need tutoring help. We believe that Reading Rocks!

HUMAN RIGHTS AND EQUAL ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
280 City Hall / Courthouse, 15 Kellogg Blvd. West, Saint Paul, MN 55102

VISIT LiveMSP.org
It’s the one-stop site for MSP living

–Learn more about buying your first home or find your next dream home
–Find information about home purchase and renovation loans and grants
–Get more involved in city life
–Celebrate your neighborhood pride
The fall and rise of Truman Smith: A Dayton's Bluff success story

By Steve Trimble

This month I decided to do an article that is really a magazine review. It looks at two recently published articles in Ramsey County History. They tell the story of Truman Smith - a forgotten man in the Dayton’s Bluff for many years, starting in its pioneer days. Incidentally, the articles are very well written, interesting and informative and worthy of your attention.

The authors-Barry C. and Joan Cotter-have been gathering data on Truman Smith for years and have found an amazing amount of material on this somewhat forgotten Daytonian, who was to be Joan’s great-great grandfather.

Here is some, but not all, of the information contained in the two articles. If you would like to contact the authors zines and information on an upcoming talk on Truman Smith, it will be at the end of this column.

First Cotter Article: Smith the Banker

“A quiet, understated, old-time gentleman” selling vegetables in the St. Paul Market was the way an 1886 historian described Truman Smith. While some would label Smith as a somewhat broken man, the Cotters believe it is a mistake to perceive him as a social outcast. Their research instead reveals a person who stuck to his principles, overcame adversity and found contentment in a second career.

Truman Smith came to Minnesota in 1851. He had been a farmer and retail grocer but had also lived downtown as a poor house and little money. His wife and two daughters remained behind and would join him after he got on his feet. Smith was selling cutting wood even though it taxed his strength. He also became a debt collector for a time. He was somewhat successful and was able to purchase a home in the prestigious Fuller House building in 1857. He also operated the successful Minnesota Marble Works in St. Paul.

He was also involved in regional agriculture as a Way Back,” will be on the fringe of the city. One early map shows it running from today’s Mounds Park up to Johnson Parkway or beyond and a little south of today’s I-94 freeway.

By 1867 he had 1,300 grape vines under cultivation featuring thirty-seven different varieties. Much as he had in his previous life, Smith was involved in the local horticultural community and to hear an interesting program on Truman Smith, one of the pioneer residents of Dayton’s Bluff. The event called “Truman Smith: Horticulturist” will be on Thursday, September 24, from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Cotters’ home. People interested in the Cotters’ program will be giving a talk in September. See the article below.

Learn Dayton’s Bluff History at the Gibbs Farm Museum

By Steve Trimble

Here is your chance to visit the Gibbs Museum of Pioneer and Dakota Life as to charge and to hear an interesting program on Truman Smith, one of the pioneers of Dayton’s Bluff. The event called “Truman Smith: Horticulturist as a Way Back,” will be on Thursday, September 24, from 3 to 6 p.m. at the Cotters’ home. People interested in the Cotters’ program will be giving a talk in September. See the article below.

Debbie’s Doghouse

By June Bennett

Debbie Diaz is a long time resident of Dayton’s Bluff. She started working at Wendy’s Doghouse 16 years ago, expect- ing to remain there for only a few months. But she enjoyed it so much she decided to go to school for pet grooming. She attended Anoka Hennepin Technical College and the Medical Institution of Min- nesota, receiving a two-year degree in Veterinary Science and another degree in Pet Grooming.

Debbie Diaz with one of her show dogs

When Wendy Brown decided to sell the building she conceived it and then also bought the building that housed it at 805 Hudson Road.

As a historical note, the Friemuth fam- ily initially constructed the building for use as a Shell gas station in 1930. John A. Friemuth owned a saloon located around the corner at 207 Bluff and was instrumental in building the Mounds Park ater at 1029 Hudson Road in 1922.

Debbie has one employee beside her- self, Denise, who has been grooming pets for 15 years.

Debbie and her husband purchased a Victorian house in the neighborhood a year ago and love every bit of it. Debbie has two daughters, Jamie, age 8 and Natacha, age 6.

She has always loved animals and owns several show dogs that she trained her- self. She also does private training in the homes of her clients.

Debbie takes pride in her work because as her motto states, “Dogs spread rumors about good groomers.”

Debbie’s Doghouse is located at 805 Hudson Road. To make an appointment call 651-776-4080. For more information visit http://www.yellowbook.com and search for Debbie’s Doghouse in St. Paul.

District Council Elections

The Dayton’s Bluff Community Council will hold its annual elections for Board members October 19, 2009. Half the seats (9) are up for election/ reelection, and one seat is presently vacant. The Board is organized into 4 sub-committees, each with 4 representatives, and 2 at-large seats. We are actively seeking candidates for board positions. Interested residents and business owners (18 years and older) may file for these positions, at the District Council office, 798 E. 7th St., until September 21. Call 651-772-2075 for more information.

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Metropolitan State University’s commitment to community, and to the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood specifically, is evident in the buffet of community service activities in which the university is participating early this fall.

The busy community service schedule happens to occur around the time of Metropolitan State president Sue K. Hammersmith’s inauguration. The university’s sixth president, a long-time proponent of serving the community, will be inaugurated on Oct. 2.

On Sept. 10, Metropolitan State is dedicating an entire day to focus on its service to the community. Faculty, students and staff will be offered opportunities to volunteer in the university’s Day of Service at a number of community organizations. The initiative signals Metropolitan State’s participation in the United We Serve campaign launched earlier this summer by President Barack Obama.

Among the organizations participating in the university’s Day of Service in Dayton’s Bluff: The District 4 Community Council, where volunteers will help build raised garden beds at the Skidmore Park Community Gardens and plant wildflowers at the Hamm Wildflower Garden; the Community Design Center of Minnesota, where they will harvest vegetables from the gardens at Third Street and Maria Avenue; and Merrick Community Services, where volunteers will serve meals through the Meals on Wheels program.

“Our goal is to offer faculty, students and staff the opportunity to experience serving the community. Our hope is they will continue to volunteer beyond our Day of Service,” said Susan Shumer, director of the Metropolitan State’s Outreach, Civic Engagement and the Center for Community-Based Learning.

On Sept. 11, Metropolitan State will offer a “Remembering 9/11” event from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in the university’s auditorium. A number of faculty, staff and students who participated in the Day of Service will reflect on their volunteerism. They will also hear John Harrington, Saint Paul Police Chief, address the meaning of community service centered on this theme: Do Something That Matters. Local residents are invited to attend.

“9/11 was a turning point for many people,” said Shumer. “I think it brought us together more as a country, encouraging us to unite and serve our communities.”

On Sept. 14, the university will observe National Constitution Day. Minnesota Supreme Court justices Paul Anderson and Barry Anderson are scheduled to discuss how the Constitution and civic engagement were important factors in the outcome of the recent Minnesota U.S. Senate election. Dayton’s Bluff residents are welcome to attend the event, which will run from 2 to 4 p.m. in the university’s auditorium.

On Oct. 8, the university will host Camp Darfur, an interactive awareness and education event calling attention to the genocide in Sudan’s Darfur region and four other areas around the world. Five symbolic tents will be set up on campus near New Main to remind visitors of the desperate conditions confronting Darfur and other refugees worldwide. Once again, local residents are invited to this event.

“Through all these activities,” said Shumer, “the university continues to demonstrate its unwavering commitment to civic engagement and community partnerships.”

Metropolitan State University is active in Dayton’s Bluff this fall
The gardeners of Dayton's Bluff

By Chelsea Starr

This summer I was able to meet with Will Xiong and Gina Stokes of the Dayton’s Bluff and Margaret Recreation Centers, the two most widely used community centers in the area. The Dayton’s Bluff Recreation Center is known throughout the community for providing activities for children, especially during the summer months when kids are out of school and parents still have to work. Dayton’s Bluff offers several programs free of cost to local children including Kidventure Day Camp and Summer Blast. These programs are open to anyone from kindergarten age up to the age of twelve. There is a Youth in Transition group started by Mary Moore, Steve Randall and Colin Moore which guides young people on the verge of making crucial life choices in the right direction. The Center also offers free lunch and a snack to anyone under 18 years of age.

Margaret Recreation Center has a teen group that focuses on teens working with staff and adult partners in mentoring relationships, learning leadership skills, communications, and decision making skills. The teen club creates a safe haven where everyone can share the space. The club includes: guest speakers, field trips, spoken word, hip hop, and other fun activities.

Most of the programs at the two centers are funded by grants and manned by volunteers. As an avid attendee of community meetings I know that these two community centers don’t always get the credit they deserve and are often criticized or labeled as problem areas. With limited resources and an even more limited volunteer base, the two centers struggle to maintain what neighborhood children know is a crucial part of their community. These centers are also sometimes the only means that allow families to keep working during the summer months when they could not afford childcare or other means to raise their young ones to successful adults. They may sound dire, however, as a parent I know first hand there is no middle ground when it comes to childcare and entertainments for the summer months. With the average program costing three hundred dollars a week, and scholarships being dell out as early as April, the average working family, even with one child, could not comfortably afford a program or cash based day care center for the entire summer. This is why we need to take another look at the attention and assistance we offer our local recreation centers. These two rec centers provide a safe place, a real entertainment to the children of Dayton’s Bluff - no questions asked. The centers focus on non-violent resolution and community action. As fall nears, I hope that everyone will take a fresh look at the reality of their local rec centers and consider what they could provide. There are other free rec centers that effectively serve our children and us. There are programs year round which need mentors and supplies, and the summer needs are ending. I believe the current state of the economy is all the more reason to get involved and throw in your two cents; they add up and keeping these places functioning is priceless to Dayton’s Bluff.

What stands out to me in particular is the distinction of these recreation centers, their intention and the fact that, if they were not here, nothing would be in their place.

The Re-Branding Of Minnesota

Minnesota has always had an upscale image that has been dissolving with the economy. The state is still a dynamic engine that can create new and interesting products for business and the consumer market. Our country and the world have developed an opinion of the state as stagnant, primitive, and unable to compete in international markets. Minnesota has to alter these preconceived incorrect perceptions through a marketing plan that celebrates what has been created and what many corporations create on a daily basis in the guise of a National Electric Museum.

Why is the need for this action? Minnesota has in the past been very successful in creating new companies by securing IPO’s (Initial Public Offerings) that were purchased by the public. The state’s image has become so tarnished that not a simple IPO has made it to market in two years. We have to change the prevailing attitudes of Minnesota being a cold, desolate region with no ingenuity to worth investigating. Creating this type of change is similar to turning the Titanic around in the straight of Magellan, a difficult task in deed, but not impossible.

The best way to change a perception is to create a different reality using truthful facts to create a platform that demonstrates the truth we, as a state, want to impart to the world. An Electronics Technology Museum would be a great start at attempting the re-branding of Minnesota.

This change in image will calm investors that they have been investing their money with assurance of the competency and capabilities of the Minnesota employee in manufacturing a quality product. This assurance is based on the truth of all the products and companies that have found success in the wilds of Minnesota.

The truth, I will state with a gentleman named Earl Bakken who bestowed on the state an Electrical Museum carrying his name. He created his fortune through a company called Cardiac Pacemaker that was a pioneer in Medical products. The ability to create a product that local residents encouraged many other companies to re-locate here, such as St. Jude’s Medical and Boston Scientific.

That truth of capability relates to a multitude of other companies in a range of other high technology efforts, as in computing, controllers, and the Internet. The modern electronic computer was birthed in Minnesota on the wilds of Minnesota. With our country and the world having developed an opinion of this state as stagnant, primitive, and unable to compete in international markets. Minnesota has to change this image to all the international markets. Minnesota has always had an upscale image to change. This change will be based on the facts to create a platform that demonstrates the truth we, as a state, want to impart to the world. An Electronics Technology Museum would be a great start at attempting the re-branding of Minnesota.

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Our Youth. Our Community. Highlighting the youth of Dayton's Bluff

Local boy jumps way to national track and field meet

Ten-year-old Kellen Sobaski was born fast. So it was no surprise when he wanted to do track and field. Last year Kellen was mistakenly placed in the long jump event, but he did surprisingly well. This year—after having broken his ankle last December—he qualified for the AAU National Track & Field Meet, held at Drake University in Des Moines. Iowa. Kellen, who runs for Saint Paul’s Minnesota Breeze team and also plays basketball for the Dayton’s Bluff Rec Center, shares some of his thoughts about the excitement and anxiety of the experience.

On working hard

(Kelly 15) I am so tired of practicing! I’m not running at Nationals, just jumping, so why should I have to keep doing all these drills and runs? My mom says I have to keep my conditioning up and that the performance is part of long jump, so she’s making me go. I got so tired some days.

On nerves

(August 5) We leave for Iowa tomorrow and I am so nervous. I feel like I’m jumping out of my skin. I’m scared that I’ll get in last place and disappoint all the people that are coming down to see me. In some ways, I don’t even want to go… I’m being told to think of all the hard work I’ve put in the last month and that just getting to Nationals is an accomplishment. But I still am anxious.

(August 6) I’m still anxious, but now excited too. When I woke up my mom had a huge sign up that said “I believe in you, Kellen!” and that helped calm me down. The trip was fun, but I got mad when my cousin and friend could go in the pool and I couldn’t because I was competing the next day. I hope I sleep good tonight: last night I was pacing the floor at midnight.

On accomplishment and reward

(August 7) I’m done and so happy. My best jump going in was 129” and I made a goal of 134” because that is exactly 160 inches…My first jump was 126”, which is okay. Then I did the next jump and got 134”! Yes! My coach and family were cheering. I was proud I had made my goal…Now the fun part—I finally get to swim. We got back to the hotel at 5pm and I immediately went in the pool and didn’t come out till 9pm and then played hide-and-seek with other kids at the hotel… I met kids from about 17 different states and made new friends. It was a great trip.

What is it about Community of Peace Academy?

By Tabitha Benci DeRango, Parent and Board member of CPA

The buzz is out about Community of Peace Academy, a gem in the middle of our city; that Eastside school that teaches Peace and Ethics curriculum daily. Meaningful discussions about leading a non-violent lifestyle and effective conflict resolution are embedded in character education for students young and old. Rob White, assistant VP for grades 7-12, believes this peace builder curriculum “brings out the best in our students.”

Karen Rusthoven Ed.D., visionary, and will.

Community of Peace Academy is a charter school, authorized by the Saint Paul Public Schools in 1995. A public charter is a Tuition Free school, open to public enrollment. You need only apply. Each charter school is founded to fulfill its unique mission and vision. The mission statement at Community of Peace is about unconditional love for all, and educating the whole child, mind, body and soul.

Karen Rusthoven Ed.D., visionary, and will.


CPA boasts high attendance rates at all grade levels and dedicated teachers have longevity with the school. They act as role models, which in turn, strengthens the students’ commitment to the peace-building model. The Community Partners program pairs high school students with younger students for projects and allows connections through education. Students have access to social workers and peer mediators to provide the resources needed to guide and sustain the peace builders pledge, which is recited daily in the grade school and weekly at the high school. In addition, the school offers many character-building experiences such as class trips, retreats and service projects. Tim McGowan, principal for 7-12 grades believes that Community of Peace produces “Leaders standing for sound ethical decisions.”

In a world of fast technology and growing global business we sometimes leave behind some very real elements such as compassion and loyalty. What does that model for our children? These are basic needs if we hope to live together here on earth in peace.

This translates to all of you in the community by the knowledge that Community of Peace Academy is working to propel our children to combat the individualism and inequality that are an issue for all of us, by offering a moral compass that binds students to one another and the rest of our world. By encouraging the child to, as Gandhi proclaimed, “be the change you want to see in the world.” Community of Peace Academy empowers and inspires children to see the world as a place that holds possibilities. These young adults graduate and go forth to pursue their dreams keeping in mind that every-one is equal, everyone deserves respect.

As a community we all realize that the future is our children. So let’s make sure they have the ability to take care of it, chosen as we are, each and every one of us to participate in this life and leave it completely touched by compassion and the art of Peace.

Community of Peace Academy is located at 471 E. Magnolia Ave. 651-776-5151 http://cpa.charter.k12.mn.us.

Dayton’s Bluff Recycling

Pick up in our area is every Tuesday. Please have your recycling at the curb by 7am.

Mounds Theatre Events

Left Behind Without A Choice

Saturday, August 29 at 7:30 p.m.

“Left Behind Without A Choice” is a movie that explores the less media-friendly side of the animal rescue efforts after Hurricane Katrina devastated New Orleans. The physical and emotional conditions of the animals are told by the very people who cared for them and nurtured them back to health as they recount their journey with Hurricane Katrina animal rescue. A few animals’ stories have been completely documented from peril to the path to recovery and are included in this documentary.

Tickets: $7.00 in advance; $9.00 at the door.

Classie Movie Double Feature

Friday, September 25, 2009

With host and more!

Psychic & Holistic Faire

September 26 and 27

Noon - 6:00 p.m. each day

Adults $4 at door for all-day admittance. Under 18 get in free!

Real Haunted Tours

Returning this October

Please visit www.moundstheatre.org to purchase tickets in advance or for more information on any of these events. The Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN 55106. Phone 651-772-2533.
After several community input meetings this spring and summer, the Friends of Mounds Park is ready to officially launch their activities. Those interested in learning more about the newly formed group devoted to stewardship of Mounds Park are invited to attend the first annual meeting on September 13. The meeting, which will include a potluck in the park, will begin the process of approving bylaws and electing officers. Everyone interested in preserving and improving the park is welcome to attend.

Friends of Mounds Park to officially launch September 13

Sacred Heart Fall Festival
La Kermes del Sagrado Corazon
September 13, 2009
10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Authentic Mexican Food
Games of Chance
Children’s Games and Pony Rides
Huge Garage Sale, Country Store Booth and Raffle
Music, Dancers and much more!!

MARK THIS DATE!!
MARQUE ESTA FECHA!!

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