Giving her best – for the good of Dayton's Bluff

Community Organizer Karin DuPaul to retire

by Jennifer Herman special to the Forum

It's normal to feel a bit anxious about a new neighbor moving in. Will they be noisy, messy, troublesome, or could they one day become dear friends? In 1977, when Karin DuPaul and her family moved to Dayton's Bluff, she hit the neighbor jackpot! Karin has served this community as a volunteer for 36 years and as an employee of the Community Council for 17 years.

Karin has been active in big ways and small ways. In 1996, Karin was hired to work in the office of the Community Council. It wasn't long before she was taking on crime prevention and community organizing responsibilities, and it is probably in this work that she is most commonly recognized. You've maybe gotten a blue recycling bin from her. It could be that she came to your block club meeting, or maybe you went to one of her community meetings to hear from the police and DSL. It's possible you saw her when you dropped off stuff at the neighborhood clean up event. Perhaps you bumped into her during the annual spaghetti dinne for the Block Nurse program. Maybe she helped you get your street blocked off for National Night Out and made sure the police and firefighters stopped by your party. Honestly, Karin seems to be everywhere and you would be hard pressed to try to avoid her!


Welcoming a new season with community meeting and dinner

by Jennifer Herman special to the Forum

Fall is a season fall of traditions: apple orchard visits, pumpkin carving, candy corn, and turkey dinners. In Minnesota we cram as much as possible into the brief fall, knowing a long winter lurks just around the corner. Dayton's Bluff residents always make time for one more important autumn tradition: the Community Council Annual Dinner and Elections. Though last year's event set a high standard, this year did not disappoint.

On the evening of October 28, neighbors drifted into the gym at Dayton's Bluff Rec Center, gathering in little groups for what might be one of their last chats before winter hibernation. Candidates for council seats could be seen circulating, doing a little last-minute campaigning before the meal. Heavenly Day Cafe and The Strip Club provided a delicious dinner; while everyone enjoyed heaping plates of food, City Council President Kathy Lantry gave her “State of Dayton's Bluff” address.

Lantry highlighted the many development projects underway in our community: the rehab at the Cerenity site, the rehab at the Cremin site, development at Hamm's Brewery, Metro State, the Hospital Linen site, the Beacon Bluff site, and the Bruce Vento Nature Sanctuary. Star Funding to revitalize multiple businesses along East 7th Street, the Gateway Corridor planning, the ongoing work on the 4th Street Preservation Project, and the Forever St. Paul $1 million winning project. Lantry admitted that all this amazing development has also come with some growing pains. Change raises questions, poses challenges, and increases anxiety, but she challenged the community to keep thinking big and to remain focused on long-range goals. Lantry noted that the Community Council has joined the wave of community development, as their own building is being rehabbed in preparation for launching the new Eastside Enterprise Center. The Council has also been working tirelessly to connect to everyone across Dayton's Bluff so that everyone in the community is heard regarding change. In fact, Lantry says Metro State and the community are poised on a possible compromise regarding the parking ramp project. The word is out that good-quality projects are welcome in Dayton's Bluff.

Next, Council President Lantry pre-

See “Annual Meeting,” continued on page 5.
Dayton’s Bluff Community Council

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 St. 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 contact Karin at karin@daytonsbluff.com or 651-772-2075 to get a junk car out of the way – and help clean up Dayton’s Bluff.

Small business classes

The next Dayton’s Bluff Neighbor Microentrepreneur Class is starting in April, 2014. This program helps start-up and young businesses on the East Side. The meetings are intended to address and listen to concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

Meet the police

The Eastern District Police hosts monthly community meetings at 722 Payne Avenue, at the corner of Minnehaha Avenue. The next meetings are Wednesday, December 18, at 6:30 pm, and Friday, December 20, at 9:30 am.

The meetings are intended to address and listen to concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

Join STOMP: Stewards Of Margaret Park

This group is open to anyone committed to taking an active role in ensuring that Margaret Park remains a safe and beautiful green space with recreational activities for everyone. Visit us on Facebook at facebook.com/stomppmn for the latest updates and announcements, or to ask questions or share your thoughts.

Community meeting:

Come one, come all

The Dayton’s Bluff Community Council holds its Community Meeting on the first Thursday of each month. 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.

All Dayton’s Bluff residents are welcome to attend and help Dayton’s Bluff be the best it can be. If you need more information, email karin@daytonsbluff.org or call Karin at 651-772-2075.

The Forum needs YOU for a Friend

The District Forum newspaper is a nonprofit operation that mails out a free valuable community resource to every address in Dayton’s Bluff. Please contribute to the paper at givemn.ransom.com under “Hopewell Communications.”

Become a Friend of the Forum today by donating any amount online, or use the form on page 8. Email editor@daytonsbluff.org for more information.

Upcoming opportunities at Dayton’s Bluff Recreation Center

- Parent & Tot Time: ongoing. Wednesdays and Fridays, 10:00 am-12:00 noon.
- Free Zumba! Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30 pm in the dance room.
- Judo: Mondays, 6:00-7:30 pm.
- Seniors “500” card playing: every Friday, 12:00 noon-4:00 pm.
- Free RecCheck program: 1st-5th grades; registration is open to the public.
- Self Defense: Wednesdays, 6:00-8:00 pm (there is a fee for this program).
- Dayton’s Bluff Family Center Parenting Group: every Friday, 9:00-11:00 am.
- Dinner With Santa: Tuesday, December 10, 5:00-7:00 pm.
- Want something to see? Come out and watch Rugby! Every Tuesday and Thursday, 6:00-8:30 pm.

Stop by and check us out!

Help Dayton’s Bluff Seniors

Dayton’s Bluff Seniors Living at Home Block Nurse Program is having a fund raiser at Davanni’s Pizza at 310 White Bear Avenue, just south of L-94 and White Bear Avenue.

Join the fun on Wednesday, December 4 – call Karin at 651-776-0550 to get the fundraiser coupon.

Holiday Boutique at First Lutheran Dec. 20-21

First Lutheran Church at 463 Maria Avenue is hosting a Holiday Boutique on Friday, December 20, 4:00-8:00 pm and Saturday, December 21, 10:00 am-5:00 pm. Make a plan now to come (and bring your friends) as you load up on holiday goodies together. There will be homemade baked goods for sale as well as artisan-produced work and hand-crafts, including several local vendors from Market On The Bluff, including Marc Eaton’s Just Jolly products and Diane May’s cut paper silhouettes. Please consider supporting your neighbors’ small businesses and the local economy as well. Vendors interested in participating should contact Diane May at 651-293-4056.

Dayton’s Bluff District Forum December 2013
**Nominating a special residence for the annual Home Tour**

*Forum staff*

We are looking for six to eight homes for the Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Home Tour, which partners with the Minneapolis-St. Paul Home Tour, that will take place on Saturday and Sunday, April 26 and April 27, 2014. This will be the eighteenth year that the Dayton’s Bluff Neighborhood Home Tour has been part of the larger tour.

The tour has been successful in getting visitors to the neighborhood. They regularly like what they see here, and some move to Dayton's Bluff. “I would recommend to others that they open their homes. It’s an amazing ego boost,” said one of last year’s participating homeowners. Others said they liked the push to get their home improvement projects done in time for the tour.

You can nominate your own home, or talk to your friends and neighbors about having their homes on the tour. For more information, email Karin@daytonsblluff.org or call Karin at 651-772-2075.

**December at the Mounds Theatre**

*By Racann Ruth, Executive Director, Mounds Theatre*

“A Christmas Carol – Radio Broadcast Show”

*Live on Stage*

“A Christmas Carol - Radio Broadcast Show” is part of the third year at the Historic Mounds Theatre.

Back before television, a holiday season tradition in America was listening to “A Christmas Carol” by Charles Dickens as performed on radio by Lionel Barrymore and narrated by Orson Welles with the Mercury Theatre group. The music was composed and conducted by the legendary Bernard Herrmann.

Few actors ever gave more meaning to the character of miserly Ebenezer Scrooge than Lionel Barrymore, who first took on the radio role in 1934.

Originally aired live on Christmas Eve in 1939, this radio broadcast will live for a lifetime in the memories of those that heard it. If you remember listening and want to recapture those magical days of your childhood Christmas, or have never heard it but want to experience the magic of live radio theatre and create new memories for you and your family, this show is for you. It will become a treasured part of your holiday listening enjoyment for years to come.

December 6, 7, 13, 14, 20, 21 at 7:00 pm; December 8, 15, 22 at 3:00 pm.

Tickets are $15 for adults; $10 for students and seniors; $6 for children under age 12.

To purchase your tickets online, please visit www.moundstheatre.org.

Please purchase your tickets early, as they sell out fast; also, consider purchasing tickets for those hard-to-please folks on your Christmas list.

**Holiday Concert**

Brio Brass will be performing a Swingin’ Holiday Concert at the Mounds Theatre on Friday, December 27, at 7:30 pm. There is a $5 cover charge.

Brio Brass has delighted and entertained audiences throughout the Twin Cities Metro area since 1999. Formed of 44 adult musicians, Brio Brass is a non-traditional, rockin’ brass band.

Brio Brass performs their own unique arrangements written specifically for its members. Their holiday and concert repertoire features a broad spectrum of musical styles. Audiences are entertained with fluid ballads, rousing marches, swinging pop of all eras, fiery rock and lots of jazz!

**Immigration and the making of St. Paul**

*Upcoming Community Education classes at Hardling High from a St. Paul Community Ed press release*

Macalester College history professor Peter Ratcheff is offering a series of six classes exploring the role of immigrants in St. Paul. You may sign up for all six classes or pick and choose among them. The final class will review the previous five in order to move into a discussion of the lessons that history might offer current voters and policy-makers who are wrestling with the political issues of immigration reform.

The classes will meet Thursdays from 6:30-8:30 pm at Harding High School.

February 27: Irish and German immigration to 19th-century Saint Paul. Between the 1840s and the 1880s, tens of thousands of Irish and German immigrants left Europe and traveled across the eastern half of the U.S. to get to St. Paul and pursue a new life. This class will explore their impact on the very foundations of our city – our neighborhoods, our industries, our labor movement, and our political and cultural identity.

March 6: Scandinavian immigration to 19th-century St. Paul. In the mid-to-late 1800s, thousands of immigrants from Norway, Sweden, Finland, and Denmark came to Minnesota. Many sought farms and moved directly to rural Minnesota; some were recruited to the hard work of the industrial frontier of the iron mines and forests in northern Minnesota; and a significant group settled in the Twin Cities.

March 13: Southern, Central, and Eastern European immigration to 19th- and 20th-century St. Paul. As the industrial revolution developed, creating a great demand for unskilled labor, immigrants from Croatia, Serbia, Hungary, Italy, Poland, Russia, Ukraine, Greece, Czechoslovakia and more found their way to St. Paul to work in meat-packing plants, foundries and machine shops, the building and maintenance of railroads, and the transport and shipment of goods.

April 10: Migrant and Immigrants: Mexicans and African Americans in early 20th-century St. Paul. The city's workforce, neighborhoods, and political and cultural life were also shaped by Mexicans, many of whom were already American citizens from Texas (“Tejanos”), and African Americans who had migrated from the South, beginning in the 1850s. Both groups sought – and found – opportunities, but they also experienced racism and hostility.


April 24: Public Policy and Immigration Reform Through the Lens of History. The history of immigration and the impact of immigrants is a rich and complicated story. There have been struggles and achievements, and our country and city show – if we know how to look – the impact of these experiences. This class will draw on some of the story and developments of the past, explored in the first five classes in this program, to generate a discussion about what the past has to offer anyone who seeks to shape the future.

Registration and cost information will be available soon. Contact the St. Paul Public Schools Community Education Office at 651-744-5094 or visit commed.spps.org.

**Mounds Park United Methodist Church**

*From a MPUMC release*

**Sunday Schedule**

Adult Sunday School: 9:15-10:15 am

Kids' and Youth Sunday School: 9:15-10:15 am

Worship Service: 10:30-11:30 am

Fellowship: 11:30 am-12:30 pm

**Glorious Grocery Giveaway**

All are welcome for a free bag of groceries: December 21, 10:30 am-12:00 noon.

**New mitten/glove, hat, sock, and scarf drive**

If you wish to donate any of these items, please bring all new items to Mounds Park Church before Christmas Eve. Church is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday, 9:00 am-2:00 pm. All items will be donated to a local women’s shelter.

Mounds Park United Methodist Church is holding a children’s coat drive to donate to St. Paul Public Schools and after-school tutoring programs. There are many new immigrants and other children in need who live in our community. The McVay Youth Voice, an after-school program run by Hamline college students at Mounds Park Church, has attracted fifth- through twelfth-grade students, many of whom are recent immigrants.

Please bring any new or gently used winter coats, snowsuits, snow pants and/or boots suitable for children ages 6 weeks up to 12th grade, to Mounds Park Church, 1049 Euclid Street (corner of Earl & Euclid) through December 15. That gives us a week to distribute the items to the local schools and after-school programs.

Thank you for being a blessing to the children in our community.
Karin DuPaul: a legacy of determination, hard work and community spirit

However, Karin's involvement in Dayton's Bluff started long before her work with the community Council. Karin's dad encouraged her to check out Swede Hollow before she even moved into her Dayton's Bluff home. Since the 1950s there had been talk of developing the hollow into a park, but in 1977 it was still an uphill task for people to work together and a place where people dumped junk and teens liked to party. But Karin saw the great potential in Swede Hollow and after she moved in, it wasn't hard for Steve Trimble to talk her into joining the Swede Hollow Task Force. Over the years, there have been many hurdles to overcome as the task force worked toward the Friends of Swede Hollow (FOSH) group. Through her leadership, FOSH has been instrumental in bringing history walks, Art in the Hollow, Watch the Glow, and the Picnic Operetta to Swede Hollow. Karin has been involved in preserving the neighborhood's history, and she has been a member of the Friends of Swede Hollow (FOSH) group. Through her leadership, FOSH has been instrumental in bringing history walks, Art in the Hollow, Watch the Glow, and the Picnic Operetta to Swede Hollow. Karin has also worked tirelessly to preserve the historic structures. She served on the City Council board from 1982 to 1992. While on the board, Karin was a driving force behind the City Council to designate a portion of Dayton's Bluff as an Historic District in 1992. This designation has protected the integrity of the big historic homes and the blocks that have been built upon them. She is remembered for her quiet voice and small stature. What a misfit! I have never met anyone with quite the same determination, energy and commitment that she has shown. She is always positive and optimistic about anything that she thinks will improve the neighborhood. She is also one of the most unselfish people I have ever met. She will never take credit for things she does, but she is constantly working on finding ways for others to step forward. She has taught me so many things over the years, but I think I ever heard her say that something was a bad idea or that something could not be done. She is always positive and optimistic about anything that she thinks will improve the neighborhood. She is also one of the most unselfish people I have ever met. She will never take credit for things she does, but she is constantly working on finding ways for others to step forward. She has taught me so many things over the years, but I think I ever heard her say that something was a bad idea or that something could not be done. She is always positive and optimistic about anything that she thinks will improve the neighborhood. She is also one of the most unselfish people I have ever met. She will never take credit for things she does, but she is constantly working on finding ways for others to step forward. She has taught me so many things over the years, but I think I ever heard her say that something was a bad idea or that something could not be done. She is always positive and optimistic about anything that she thinks will improve the neighborhood. She is also one of the most unselfish people I have ever met. She will never take credit for things she does, but she is constantly working on finding ways for others to step forward. She has taught me so many things over the years, but I think I ever heard her say that something was a bad idea or that something could not be done. She is always positive and optimistic about anything that she thinks will improve the neighborhood. She is also one of the most unselfish people I have ever met. She will never take credit for things she does, but she is constantly working on finding ways for others to step forward. She has taught me so many things over the years, but I think I ever heard her say that something was a bad idea or that something could not be done. She is always positive and optimistic about anything that she thinks will improve the neighborhood. She is also one of the most unselfish people I have ever met. She will never take credit for things she does, but she is constantly working on finding ways for others to step forward. She has taught me so many things over the years, but I think I ever heard her say that something was a bad idea or that something could not be done. She is always positive and optimistic about...
by Tim Herman

ESABA President

The East Side Area Business Association (ESABA) offices at the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council and advocates success for the diverse East Side business community throughout its programs, advocacy for local businesses, and helping to attract new jobs to our community.

ESABA is helping to tell the exciting story about the millions of dollars of development projects already under way. The former 3M site has two new projects set to start, Metro State has three new buildings to come, and the Hamms Brewery has three new businesses in development as well. The former Hospital Linen site is adding a Mississippi Market Food Coop and future senior affordable housing. These projects will add hundreds of new jobs to our community and will create the need for additional development and businesses to come in to meet the needs of these new businesses. Here are some of our upcoming events and projects.

“Journey around the world without leaving the East Side” at ESABA’s Holiday Gala! Join ESABA and the entire business community for our second annual fund raiser event to celebrate the rich cultural diversity of St. Paul’s East Side. On Tuesday, December 10, at the Carpenters Union Hall at 710 Olive Street, the event will feature signature dishes from several East Side restaurants, complimentary beer from our new East Side neighbor Flat Earth Brewing. Complimentary wine from our liquor store members, and speakers: City Council President Kathy Lantry and Juht Selamopa founder David Wagner. There will also be a silent auction and a grand prize drawing. Entertainment will be provided by Farmsworth Aerospace K-8 String Ensemble, Jordan Herman AKA DJ Soulmatcha, and a special acoustic performance by local artist G.B. Leighton. All this for only $35 per person, or tables of eight for $250. Visit tinyurl.com/lpy4x89 to register or for more details.

ESABA helps Metro State and the community build a bridge forward. Metro State is about to pour $66 million into building a new 700-space parking ramp, a student center and science center, over the next few years as they expand their campus. The community and ESABA advocated for a collaborative site plan that encouraged an outward community focus rather than a closed-off inward focus. Because of our advocacy and resolutions drafted by ESABA’s Board, MNSCU, the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council, Community Members, and ESABA were able to come to an agreement on a site plan that benefits everyone. The results of this community process include the student center moving to East 7th Street instead of Maria Avenue, and the ramp being located in the middle of the block rather than along Bates Avenue with the five-story high point at 7th Street and Bates which would have created a “fortress” feel to local residents and businesses. MSU will also hire a Community Engagement Specialist and was requested aid by ESABA and the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council in the selection process. The greatest benefit for the community from this experience will be the creation of an advisory board including said parties that will help foster community collaborations with Metro State.

ESABA 100+ Kicks off Tuesday, November 26, 3:00-4:30 pm at the Cherry Pit. With the fast growth of our membership over the last 18 months, we recognize the need to educate and inform our members how to get the most out of your membership and how to plug into our many events, committees, and opportunities to market your business as well as learn how we are helping your business behind the scenes through advocacy and the many community and civic committees we are part of on your behalf. We are planning to host these as free events at different restaurant/bars with an opportunity for a happy hour to follow. Find out more details on the events page at www.esaba.org.

ESABA welcomes two new faces. East Side resident Nicole Williams is our new Executive Officer Assistant. She has years of experience working in a large law firm, is the mother of six boys, and has run catering and restaurant businesses. We also added our first intern from the Takoda Institute in Minneapolis, Fred Jenkins. He is a Public Relations Specialist student and will help us with various marketing strategies and events. If you see them at a meeting or event, give them a warm welcome.

ESABA to launch print newsletter. Our intern Fred will be developing a newsletter as we work to increase the ways we communicate with our members and the public. Writers and/or interviewers wanted! Features will include a member spotlight, job openings, new member listings, community announcements, stories of ESABA’s impact on the community, advocacy, and more. Contact Tim Herman if you are interested in helping.

Visit ESABA’s website at www.esaba.org for updated news and events.

ESABA's November 2013 update

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Board of Directors: Greg Cosimini, Karin DuPaul, Steve Trimbile
Editor/Layout: Meg Gronau
Editorial Assistant: Mark Gallagher

Metro State comes to agreement with neighbors over parking ramp

by Karin DuPaul
Forum board member

“Congratulations on the Agreement,” read the banner hanging in the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council meeting room. A large clock decorated with balloons and the word “Agreement” topped off the meeting. The special Dayton’s Bluff Community Council Land Use meeting on November 12 was a celebration, and the Land Use committee passed a motion in support of the Dayton’s Bluff Community University’s “Areas of Mutual Agreement” document.

Numerous community members attending the meeting thanked Minneapolis State University personnel for working with the community to address the parking ramp and Student Center fit in with the community vision.

The Areas of Mutual Agreement document reads as follows:

Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood leadership representatives and the Metropolitan State University leadership are delighted to reach agreement on the plan for the development of a parking ramp and student center on the St. Paul campus of Metropolitan State University. The university and the neighborhood representatives agree to work together to advance these objectives in the months ahead.

Overall project objectives:

- The university has agreed with the neighborhood’s request to site the parking ramp in the center of Bates Avenue, entering Bates Avenue and running toward Maria Avenue with an east-west orientation.
- The ramp will accommodate 700 cars.
- The ramp will have a two-level elevation above grade along Bates Avenue (four levels in total) and five levels of parking on the Maria Avenue side.
- The two entrances/exits from the ramp will be on Maria Avenue (entering/existing Maria from 6th Street) and on Bates.
- Parking ramp facades on Bates Avenue facing Maria Avenue should receive priority for sensitive and appropriate design and materials.
- Everyone agreed to support efforts to create a pedestrian-friendly environment on Maria Avenue and will seek a solution with the city in order to limit and calm traffic on Maria.
- The university will undertake additional study of the traffic conditions at the related intersections including:
  - Pedestrian safety and access improvements on Maria;
  - A traffic-control solution for Bates and 7th Streets;
  - A traffic-control solution for Bates and East 6th Street.
- The neighborhood is pleased that the university is willing to locate the student center on 7th Street in order to add to the vitality of the avenue.
- The university will have continued conversations with the campus and the neighborhood about sensitivities about the design of the student center.
- It is recognized that several variances and the re-zoning of three residential properties will be sought in order to accomplish this overall plan.
- It is understood that the construction schedule will create temporary campus parking pressure in the area.
- Everyone will work to assist the university in its access and temporary parking during the construction period.
- Efforts will be made to encourage changing habits and long-term transit use during this time.
- In evaluating the need for additional surface parking, the university commits to minimize asphalt and maximize green space on the balance of the block.
- Everyone acknowledges that the overall budget for this construction program is limited. The neighborhood’s preferences will be a priority in the design development process within that context.
- The university looks forward to the formation of a standing community-university committee, which will lead negotiation and relationship-building in the years ahead.
- For more information on the proposed construction or the agreement, please email karin@dayton bluff.org or call 651-772-2075.

Dayton’s Bluff district forum - December 2013

Letter to the editor

Thrifty store “desktop” raids unfairly punish families

A couple of weeks ago, “desktop” raids took place at Valu Thrift in Sun Ray shopping center and Unique Thrift at Rice Street and Laporte. These raids were done by U.S. Customs and Enforcement (ICE).

Desktop raids occur when ICE requests a description of a document from a particular employer. After two weeks or so, ICE informs the employer which employees have to be let go.

This system is very different from the military-style raids from the Bush era, but nonetheless, they still have devastating effects. Some people say that about 75 people, many from the East Side, lost their jobs in the thrift store raids, so up to 75 families were affected.

Now, before we start judging people for being here without documents, I should take a moment to explain some of the reasons why people come here that way.

The North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) has played a big role in people coming here without documents. NAFTA was introduced with the premise that it was going to create better jobs for the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. This sentiment was supported in Mexico. NAFTA opened the door for corn to be imported from the U.S. The staple food in Mexico. Corn was so cheap that farmers in Mexico started to lose money every time they planted it, which created a big migration.

Another effect was the expansion of the maquiladoras (U.S. factories along the U.S.-Mexico border). These factories that moved from the U.S. to Mexico used to pay good wages and benefits but when the door opened in Mexico, things changed. The maquiladoras were paying $5.00 a day with no overtime pay, no benefits and women forced to take a pregnancy test once a week. If the test was positive, they lost their job. So what do we expect people to do, when they know just across the border in the U.S. people were being paid $5.00 an hour with overtime and benefits.

The people that lost their jobs are human beings and I hope we put ourselves in their situation. Most of the people in the U.S. have ancestors who made the same decision. They came here to make a better life for themselves and their families. I also hope that you as your Congress person and tell them to vote on Immigration Reform so people can work and feed their families in peace because the day that is all they want, just like your ancestors did.

Rafael Espinosa is a representative of the United Food and Commercial Workers, Local 1189. He is also the vice president of the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council.

Letter to the editor

New neighbor with a big idea: ending hunger

I grew up on the east side, and now the wife and I have made a major move to Dayton’s Bluff. And so delighted that we have! I’m writing this article to introduce myself to the neighborhood and talk about something I’m doing to eliminate hunger in Minnesota.

First of all, I’d like to impress on everyone that this isn’t my first endeavor to help when I can. In 1974, I bicycled from the Twin Cities to Memphis, Tenn. to benefit St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital in Memphis. It was a way for me to thank God for allowing me to live through something that should have taken my life.

In 1989, I bicycled from the Twin Cities to Washington, D.C., delivering hundreds of letters written by children from all over America suffering from cancer. They had their own “person of mailman” to deliver their personal letters to the President of the United States – a form of hope that the chemo couldn’t provide.

And in 2007, I bicycled from Seattle to Washington, D.C., gathering the hopes and dreams of thousands of kids across America. I promised to send their letters into space and, in 2009, the kids’ letters traveled around the planet on the Space Shuttle Atlantis. To see the results of this endeavor, visit www.lettershope2007.com.

Now it’s time for you to ensure our children and elderly have the food they need so desperately. I’ve been working on the Minnesota Miracle for more than two years and now represent 385,000 union workers throughout Minnesota. The website www.minnesota miracle.com has details on what’s coming in April 2014. I’ll be walking 300 miles from International Falls to the Twin Cities with a fundraising goal of $30 million! Donations have already come in from organizations across Minnesota. Pledge forms are going out to all union members after January 1, 2014.

Now I’m asking everyone in my new neighborhood to lend a hand. I’m not asking for any funds, but rather direction to those who would like to be part of a legacy: helping make Minnesota hunger-free in 2014. I’ve spoken with the representatives of all the labor unions throughout the state and have their promise of involvement. Now I’m hoping to talk to everyone else who shares the same concern of keeping our children and elderly hunger-free.

My father always taught me that it’s not how much a man has, or how much he knows, but WHO he knows that counts. I want to let everyone who reads the Minnesota Miracle and invite you to join me, and thousands of others, on the final leg of the 300-mile walk, from White Bear Lake to the State Capitol on Sunday, May 4, 2014 – a day that will be remembered by every common man and woman like myself who felt they had the power to make a difference. Join me behind the banner that reads “Minnesota – taking care of our own.”

So if any of my new neighbors have a way of helping us find success next April, please contact me through www.minnesotamiracle.com, or look for the HOPE sign on Maria Avenue.

Gary C. Fitch
Dayton’s Bluff
“Women turn to gaze at him, attrac- ted by the abundant hair that waves back from a good forehead, the fine fea- ture, the mannish attractiveness. Men like him for the square look in his eyes and the sense of fresh air about him. It may be that he carries with him a part of the skies in which he’s spent so much of his life, for he was a flyer long before he was an actor.”

This is how an old fan magazine de- scribed the appeal of a movie actor named Richard Arlen, a former neigh- borhood resident who is almost un- known today in Dayton’s Bluff. So who was this man who used to live in our area?

Like many Hollywood figures, he took on an as- sumed name. He was born Sylvanus James Mat- timore, the youngest of five children of James and Mary Mat- timore. His friends called him Van. The 1899 Dual City Blue Book lists the Mattimore family addressed as 927 Hast- ings Avenue. Today, the street is known as Hudson Road.

The fact that they were listed in the volume suggests that their family was somewhat prosperous. His father was a claim agent for the streetcar company and thus became an attorney. One issue of a newspaper reported that the family participated in a gathering at St. John’s Catholic Church in Dayton’s Bluff, so they were part of the community.

Their family name sometimes showed up in the social pages of the St. Paul Globe. In 1902, Mrs. Mattimore hosted a meeting of the New Century Club at her home. September of that year, the newspaper reported that the Mattimore family had returned to Hastings Avenue after summering in Newport.

At some point, the Mattimore family seems to have moved to the White Bear area. In 1930, New Movie Magazine printed an interview with Arlen. “Some- body gave me a bicycle and I thought I ought to use it somehow to make money, so I got a newspaper route,” Arlen told them. “That was when I was eight years old. I lived at Manitou Island and every morning I rose at 5:30 and supplied 165 papers. My salary was eight dollars a month. And the next winter I got a newspaper route,” Arlen told the St. Paul Dispatch that he went to Crotin. Two newspaper articles and an obituary state that he graduated from Central High School, where he played hockey and baseball. One source said that he entered the University of Min- nesota but left to go into the Canadian Air Force. A local newspa- per reported that he went to St. Thomas a short time before leaving for WWI. Another source said he went to college in Pennsylvania, but it is not un- clear when.

Following the war, Arlen became a swimming in- structor at the St. Paul Athletic Club where he was also on the cycling team. He also worked as a lifeguard and handyman at Wildwood Amusement Park in White Bear.

Arlen went to Los Angeles intending to work in the oil fields, but ended up with a job as a motorcycle messenger at a film laboratory. One day while making a delivery, he crashed into the gates of Paramount Pictures. The studio provided him with a medical attendance by the handsome young stranger, gave him a small contract in 1925.

Arlen soon rose to credited roles. His big break came when he was cast as a pilot in Wings, an award-winning 1927 film. As the 1930s progressed, Arlen saw his standing in Hollywood slip, so he took on an as- signed role as a competent performer always, at his best playing a tough, cynical hero with a dash of humor.

He often returned to home to visit his parents, who moved to 1854 Goodrich. He always considered this city to be home, once saying “I heard that heart grows fes- ting faster when I get close to St. Paul.” According to one source, he spent sever- al weeks a year with his elderly mother.

He continued to get small parts, sometimes on early television, until his death in 1976 from the growing effects of emphysema. Richard Arlen had a standing role at the Hollywood Walk of Fame, but nothing here in his home town. Perhaps someone who reads this article will help start a Richard Arlen Fan Club or possi- bly an Arlen film festival – maybe at the Mounds Theater.

Rep. Sheldon Johnson (DFL-St. Paul) was presented with a 2013 Tekne Award for Public Service from the Minnesota High Tech Association (MIHTA) at its annual ceremony Wednesday, Novem- ber 6, 2013, at the Minneapolis Conven- tion Center.

Johnson was recognized as a long- time champion of broadband and author of legislation that established the original Minnesota High Speed Broadband Task Force. He also was the lead House author of the bill establishing the Office of Broadband Development.

MIHTA is an innovation and technolo- gy association united in fueling Min- nesota’s prosperity. It helps bring together the people of Minnesota’s tech- nology ecosystem and leads the charge in directing technology issues to Min- nesota’s state Capitol. MIHTA is the only membership organization that repres- ents Minnesota’s entire techno- logy-based economy.

Between “Black Friday” and “Cyber Monday” is “Small Business Sat- urday.” November 30 is a very import- ant sales day for a small, determined group of your neighbors who need you to come support their businesses in the Dayton’s Bluff Community. MIHTA offices from 12:00 to 4:00 pm. But, let’s start at the beginning... If you haven’t noticed, there are some noticeable gaps in retail spaces on East 7th Street. Under the guidance of Tabitha DelRango, the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council formed “Market On The Bluff” as part of the Make it Happen on East 7th Street initi- ative to promote business growth in the neighborhood. The Market started off with a bang when the city of St. Paul won the “Better Block” grant and partitioned off Margaret Street to have our very own open-air Farmer’s Market on Thursday nights last summer. The attendance for the Better Block event was staggering, and the excitement in the air was palpable.

As the market scaled back for au- tumn and moved inside the Com- munity Council offices, building the vendors appreciated the many people who went looking for or accidently stumbled onto the Market and suppor- ted it with their presence, kind words of appreciation, and sales. A lot of re- turn customers found the “Market on the Bluff” Facebook page helpful to tell them where the Market was going to be at, who was the featured artist of the week, and to see some photographs of some really cute kids.

And they brought it back to Small Business Saturday. Come support these artisans and craftpeople going the ex- tra mile to bring you homemade, loc- ally-produced goods. “Market on the Bluff” has vendors who make their own jewelry, soap, lip gloss, lotion, wooden bowls, driftwood stands, pil- lowcases, Christmas stockings, cards, fine-art prints, paintings, pies, muffins, sweetbreads, jams, jellies, honey, sausage, and relish to sell. We proudly serve Organ Gold Coffee, Tea, and Hot Chocolate.

There will be something for every- one. On November 30 from 12:00 noon to 4:00 pm. Three dollars will get you either a hand-produced card, an indi- vidual-serving of pie, or a few veget- able-dried goods. “Market on the Bluff” has vendors who make their own jewelry, soap, lip gloss, lotion, wooden bowls, driftwood stands, pil- lowcases, Christmas stockings, cards, fine-art prints, paintings, pies, muffins, sweetbreads, jams, jellies, honey, sausage, and relish to sell. Come and find out what eight or ten dollars might buy! Your neighbors sure would appreciate it.
2013 marks third year of Roger Tetu Award
by Forum staff

The 2013 Roger Tetu award was given to John Engeretson during the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council’s Annual Community Meeting and Dinner. This is the third year this award was given to a neighbor who is making our neighborhood a better place to live. John enjoys fixing things and is known as the neighborhood handy man. He helps keep his alley cleaned up. When he finds discarded bicycle parts, he uses them to fix neighborhood kids’ bikes. Sometimes he has enough parts for a whole bike, and he gives it away to a child who doesn’t have one. He picks up trash on his walk to and from Cub Foods on Clarence Street. He has helped neighbors clean up graffiti. He helps neighbors with yard work, snow removal, and gardening.

The first time Dayton’s Bluff Community Council staff met him, he had walked to our office to get six recycling bins for new neighbors and took them back home on his cart. Recycling is one of the things he believes everyone should do. One of his neighbors, Jess Cardoza, stated, “If every block had a neighbor like John, what a wonderful place it would be.”

Keep your eye out for neighbors worthy of the Roger Tetu award. For more information, email karin@daytonsbluff.org or call Karin at 651-772-2075.

John Engeretson, right, winner of the 2013 Roger Tetu award for neighborhood service, is pictured with his neighbors Jovita and Jess Cardoza at the Dayton’s Bluff Community Council’s Annual Community Dinner.

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