

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

Volume 32, No. 4
 May 2019
 daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org

"The Voice of the Community"



Jennifer Gascoigne

Two Minneapolis & Saint Paul Home Tour visitors stopping by 735 Margaret Street, a Queen Anne style Victorian structure historically known as the Charles Grew House, to see the property in the early stages of renovation. This grand home features original 1890s woodwork, an ornately tiled fireplace (in excellent condition!) and lots of space. This Dayton's Bluff home was spared the wrecking ball and became a renovation collaboration between Dayton's Bluff, Ramsey County, and the City of Saint Paul. Work began in August 2018, and is expected to be completed in September 2019.

Coming soon to Dayton's Bluff: 10th Annual Art in the Hollow

*Karin DuPaul
 Forum Staff*

Calling all artists and entertainers! The 10th Annual Art in the Hollow takes place on **Saturday, June 1, from 10:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.** in Swede Hollow Park. Openings remain for artists, artisans, and performers. Sign up on Facebook or at www.artinthehollow.org. The fee for artists to display is \$15. There is no fee for performers, who will be selected based on talent, variety, and local roots.

Art in the Hollow will include a temporary environmental sculpture contest. Entry is \$10, and concepts meeting safety criteria will be erect-

ed the day of the festival. Three cash prizes will be awarded. Don't miss your chance to make a statement with public art! No previous experience or credentials required. Apply by May 21 at www.artinthehollow.org.

There will be artists in a variety of media demonstrating and selling their works, and performers from around the globe on stage in the heart of magical Swede Hollow Park. Scores of community members come together to make this happen, and volunteers are rewarded with a breakfast at the beginning of the day and a party with the artists afterward. For more information on volunteering to be a part of this wonderful celebration of talent go to www.artinthehollow.org or contact Karin DuPaul at 651-776-0550 or karindupaul@comcast.net.

To exhibit, perform, or enter the sculpture contest, sign up at www.artinthehollow.org. Art in the Hollow is free and open to all.



Photos by Steve Trimble

(Pictured above and below) Saturday, April 20, was an egg-s-tra special day on the Bluff. Mounds Park United Methodist Church invited the community to take part in their annual Easter Egg Hunt, held each year at Indian Mounds Park. The big bunny himself was on-hand (on paw?) to give hugs and spread springtime cheer to Dayton's Bluff.



Friends of Swede Hollow Photo Contest: Photographers wanted!

*Karin DuPaul
 Forum Staff*

Friends of Swede Hollow is hosting a Spring Swede Hollow Photo Contest. Photos must be taken in Swede Hollow Park between March 21 and June 20, 2019. Email your photos

in .jpg format to karindupaul@comcast.net by or before **June 23, 2019**.

Please put "FOSH Spring Photo Contest" in the subject line, your contact information within the body of the email, and if you'd like, the title of your image. Prizes are first place - \$75, second place - \$50, and third place - \$25. Judging will be done by the East Side Arts Council.

Karin DuPaul can be reached at daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

**Dayton's Bluff
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Dayton's Bluff Take-a-Hike

On the second Saturday of most months, the Dayton's Bluff Take-a-Hike will begin at Indian Mounds Park, at Earl Street and Mounds Boulevard, at 10:30 a.m. The next hike will be on Saturday, May 11. The hike is approximately one and a half to two hours long and will end at Swede Hollow Park or East Side Heritage Park, depending on the desire of the hikers. Share and learn a little history along the way! Email karindupaul@comcast.net or call 651-776-0550 for more information.

Friends of Swede Hollow

Watch over, restore, and celebrate the history of Swede Hollow Park. Join the Swede Hollow community at their monthly meeting on Thursday, May 2, at 6:30 p.m. Email karindupaul@comcast.net or call 651-776-0550 for more information and the meeting's location.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum Board Meeting

The Forum is seeking writers and help with online content, idea generation, and ad sales – join us at our next meeting on Friday, May 3, at 1:00 p.m., at Swede Hollow Cafe at 725 E. 7th Street. Call 651-776-0550 or email daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com for more information.

Police Community Meetings

The Eastern District Saint Paul 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.

The next meetings are on Wednesday, May 15, at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. Meetings are intended to be a time to listen to and address concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

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

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

Aún si no es ciudadano, si tiene hijos nacidos en este país ellos podrían calificar. Participar en el programa SNAP no afectará su estatus migratorio.

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

Need healthy food for your family? The SNAP program provides funds for low-income families to buy food. Even if you are not a citizen, your children born in this country could qualify. Participation in the SNAP program won't affect their immigration status.

Call CLUES to find out if you qualify at 612-746-3500. Our bilingual staff can facilitate the process for your family.

Twin Cities Mobile Market

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



THE HISTORIC
MOUNDS
THEATRE

Saturday, May 4: Midwest All-Star Wrestling returns to the Mounds Theater for *MAW Live: Enemy of the State!* Garriason Creed vs. Moses Mayhem, Chris Jordan vs. Damon Spriggle, The African Prince ALI vs. Stonehenge Joseph Wayne, Scott Story vs. Air Wolf. The System will be in action. Strap Match: Russell Rogue vs. Leonard Literacy. And as always, Heel Turn Radio will be calling all the action LIVE from the Haunted Balcony. **Doors open at 6:00 p.m. and the show kicks off at 7:00 p.m.** Tickets: General admission (in advance): \$9 adults, \$7 kids; General admission (at the door): \$12 adults, \$8 kids; VIP ringside seating (in advance): \$15 adults, \$10 kids; VIP preferred seating (at the door): \$15 adults, \$10 kids.

Fridays, Saturdays & Sundays, May 10-25: Fearless Comedy Productions presents: *Rosencrantz and Guildenstern Are Dead*. Show times: **May 10, 11, 17, 18, 24 and 25 at 7:30 p.m.; May 12 and 19 at 2:30 p.m. Tickets: \$15.**

May 31 - June 2: 2 Defy Gravity presents *Circus Splendor*. *Circus Splendor* is a performance combining the art of contemporary circus with other art forms to push the boundaries of circus today. This all ages cabaret-style show will feature innovative and exciting pieces choreographed and performed by local circus artists. Join us and be inspired by the strength and power of these amazing performers! Check website for show times and tickets.

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

May at the Dayton's Bluff Library

The following events take place at the Dayton's Bluff library, 645 East Seventh Street, Saint Paul. The library will be closed on Monday, May 6, for staff training, and May 25-27, in observation of Memorial Day.

Saturdays, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Games and Maker Space in the FunZONE! Play computer games like Minecraft, and enjoy other hands-on fun in the Zone.

Tuesday, May 14, from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m., Teens Know Best! Teens have exclusive access to books before they are published.

This group meets on the second Tuesday of every month to share opinions and pizza. *Teens Know Best* members write reviews of the books they read. The reviews are submitted to the publishers to help guide their decisions.

Did you know that you can check out

board games at the library? Library visitors can play the games in the library or check them out for two weeks. The full list of games can be viewed at <http://bit.ly/MetroGames> and all are available to the public.

For information about these and other events check sppl.org or call 651-793-1699. The Dayton's Bluff Library shares its home with Metropolitan State University at 645 East 7th Street.

Wish List Care Packages

Help East Side Elders distribute food, hygiene items, and more to seniors on the East Side by shopping their Amazon Wish List!

Visit www.amazon.com/registry/wish-list/3KK001OGFO5NJ. You can have these much-needed items sent right to our office. From there, our team of volunteers will distribute them to seniors in need.

With the help of supporters like you, we are able to supply groceries and personal care items to seniors in the community, at no charge to them. These items help stretch their monthly budgets and give them access to healthy food and much-needed personal care products. Donations can also be dropped off at our office: East Side Elders, 463 Maria Avenue Suite 201, St. Paul, MN 55106. A printable wish list can also be found on our website.

Grocery Shopping

Did you know that East Side Elders can help you and your loved one with grocery shopping? We want to be part of your support team!

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

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

Business Classes

The Dayton's Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur class helps start-up and young businesses on the East Side. All East Side entrepreneurs are welcome. Class training lasts 12 weeks and includes topics such as operations management, marketing, financial management, one-on-one assistance with creating a successful business, and developing a business plan, plus eight hours of one-on-one assistance with creating and preparing a business plan.

Those who successfully complete the course are eligible for ongoing business support services (they don't have to locate their business in target neighborhoods to be eligible).

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 scale. Class size is limited, so sign up now. Please call the training department at 651-379-8113.

Free Help for East Side Pets

The Animal Humane Society's Community Outreach program offers special clinics for pets on the East Side. The events provide free wellness exams, vaccines, nail trims, spay/neuter appointment scheduling, guidance from the AHS behavior team and St. Paul Animal Control, free pet food, and more.

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

Summer Employment

Looking for a fun job? Ramsey County Parks and Recreation is now hiring for the summer 2019 season to staff city parks, golf courses, beaches, and water parks. Positions offer flexibility in scheduling within a fun, friendly, outdoor environment. For more information and to apply, Visit www.ramseycounty.us/residents/parks-recreation/seasonal-employment.

Swede Hollow Bird Walk

Come see and learn about the many different birds in beautiful Swede Hollow Park. On Saturday, May 4, at 9:00 a.m., meet at Drewry Lane and Beaumont, just southeast of Payne and Minnehaha. Kathy Sidles will lead the walk and help find the birds. In addition to visual sightings, Kathy will teach us "Birding by Ear" identification. If you have binoculars please bring them. Visit the Friends of Swede Hollow Facebook page or call 651-776-0550 for updates. The Swede Hollow Park Bird Walk is a FREE event and all are welcome!

Harding High School 50th Class Reunion

Calling all 1969 Harding High School grads! Join the celebration on Saturday May, 18, from 6:00-10:00 p.m. at the Crooked Pint, 1734 Adolphus Street, Maplewood. To RSVP, contact jankiefiner@comcast.net.

May Elder Cafe

Thursday, May 9, from noon to 2:00 p.m., join East Side Elders for the Ogitchidakwe Council Drumming Circle and a delicious meal. The Ladies Drum Circle will perform and talk about their work to break the silence to end sexual violence. The program and lunch will take place at First Lutheran Church, 463 Maria Avenue, St. Paul.

Cost is \$5 per person and punch cards may be purchased at the door using cash, check, or credit card. RSVP at 651-683-2326 or Info@EastSideElders.org to make your reservation or to request transportation on an accessible van. A meal cannot be guaranteed without a reservation. Please contact East Side Elders at least one week in advance of the event with any special dietary needs.

Donations of non-perishable food or personal care items are welcome at the event. Items will be collected for the Blue Bag program, delivering supplemental groceries to seniors.



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Contest: Where in Dayton's Bluff?

Send your guess to daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com with the location of the neighborhood curiosity pictured below for a chance to win great prizes from local businesses. The reader who submits the first correct entry will be notified and the winner will be announced in the June edition of the *Forum*. Congratulations to Rick, of Bates Street, winner of May's contest with his correct guess of Mississippi Market.



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Facebook

Urban CROSS 2019

Eric Buck

Mounds Park United Methodist Church

Urban CROSS is a week of serving the Dayton's Bluff community and surrounding area, and is hosted by Dayton's Bluff Community Services and Mounds Park United Methodist Church. Each year we serve households and non-profit organizations. Projects include the likes of simple construction, yard work and landscaping, indoor and outdoor painting, cleaning, and organizing.

There are many ways you can help us help our community. We are looking for homeowners and non-profits to serve. We are looking for individuals and groups who would like to work along side us with these projects. We are looking for individuals and groups who would like to help with the hospitality of our "campers." We are also looking for donations of tools and supplies, as well as food for our staff.

This year's Urban CROSS is the week of June 9-15. We'd love to have you be a part of it. Please contact Eric Buck, Director of Urban CROSS, at (651)774-8736.

Dayton's Bluff District Forum

804 Margaret Street, St. Paul, MN 55106

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

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Board of Directors: Greg Cosimini, Nick Duncan, Karin DuPaul, Sage Holben, Steve Trimble

Editor/layout: Jennifer Gascoigne; Associate Editor: Mark Gallagher

Photographer: Lou "The Photo Guy" Michaels

Next issue: June 2019. **Deadline for material: May 10, 2019.**

Critic's Corner: A dash of culture comes to Dayton's Bluff

Mozart's opera "Cosi Fan Tutte" at the Mounds Theatre

Amerigo Vespucci
Forum opera critic

Full disclosure: Yes, I am Italian and therefore expected to be an aficionado of opera, but truth be told, I am not. I would normally rather eat lasagna made with Velveeta and cottage cheese (which, for you philistines out there, is a bad thing) than attend an opera. I take great pride in the fact that in my 68 years I have never gone to a live opera or watched more than a few minutes of one on PBS. I am familiar with some opera due to my father's inexplicable fondness for it and my own fondness for old Warner Bros. cartoons.

Be that as it may, I took it upon myself to make the arduous three-block trek to the Historic Mounds Theatre to see *Cosi Fan Tutte*, an opera written in 1790 with music by none other than Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart himself, and libretto by Lorenzo da Ponte.

While music is universal, Italian is not. Fortunately, this production was translated into English and the setting was modernized to the present time. *Cosi*, as its fans call it, is considered a comedy and, unlike a Shakespearean comedy, is actually funny, often boarding on slapstick. Parts of the story

seemed familiar because other writers have been "borrowing" from it for over 200 years.

Cosi was presented by Skylark Opera Theater whose *raison d'être* is to bring opera to nontraditional venues in an intimate setting at fairly reasonable ticket prices. The Mounds Theatre provided a perfect venue. It has excellent acoustics requiring no electronic amplification for either the outstanding singers or the single grand piano that provided the music.

A thrust stage was built out from the main stage with diagonal rows of seats on either side, giving everyone in the audience an excellent view. The set was simplicity itself, consisting of chairs and tables and the grand piano. Many overturned chairs of various styles were strewn about the stages, obviously representing the unconventional and tradition-breaking presentation of this version of *Cosi*.

Cosi played to full houses at each performance with extra seats added as needed. The audiences definitely weren't your typical stuffed-shirt opera types. There were no tuxedos or evening gowns in evidence but more than one flannel shirt was spotted. Everyone enjoyed the show, the likes of which hasn't been seen at the Mound Theatre since Nelson Eddy and Jeanette MacDonald operettas were shown there on the silver screen in the 1930s and 1940s.

Even this hardened critic has to admit that he was thoroughly entertained by *Cosi*. He can only say "Bravissimo" and hope Skylark will bring another opera to Dayton's Bluff in the future.



Photo courtesy of Skylark Opera

The ladies of Mozart's opera "Cosi Fan Tutte" at the Mounds Theatre.

Annual Frogtown Community Garage Sale

Don't miss some great deals and the chance to help your senior neighbors live healthy, active lives.

Lynn Byrne
Friendly Frog Events Committee

Hey, Dayton's Bluff! The Friendly Frog Events Committee announces its Frogtown Community Garage Sale to benefit seniors living in the Frogtown neighborhood of St. Paul. Each year, neighbors pitch in to collect donated items to sell in the sale, with all proceeds going to fund social activities for neighborhood seniors.

The annual Frogtown Community garage sale is the major fundraiser for the Friendly Frog Events Com-

mittee. All proceeds go back into the community. Some events made possible are the Frogtown Adult Christmas Party, the Senior Halloween Party, Frogtown National Night Out, and the Frogtown Senior Horseshoe League.

The sale takes place annually on the first Friday and Saturday in May, at the new location of 411 Blair Avenue, St. Paul. This year's sale will take place on **Friday, May 3, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and Saturday, May 4, from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

All donations are welcome - especially kitchen items, books, clothes, small furniture, knick-knacks, working appliances, toys, puzzles, and monetary donations. No computers, monitors, TVs, or printers will be accepted.

To schedule a donation pick-up, or for more information, please call (651) 488-9671 or (651) 488-7390.

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY						
		1 12-3 p.m. Job Search/Computer Skills/Open Lab 4-7 p.m. Homework Center (Snack 4-4:30)		2 10:30-11:30 a.m. Tot Time		3 11-11:30 a.m. Baby Storytime		4 2-4 p.m. FunZONE: Games & Makerspace					
5		6 ALL LOCATIONS CLOSED FOR STAFF TRAINING		7 12-3 p.m. Northstar Digital Literacy Open Lab 4-7 p.m. Homework Center (Snack 4-4:30)		8 12-3 p.m. Job Search/Computer Skills/Open Lab 4-7 p.m. Homework Center (Snack 4-4:30)		9 6:30-7:30 p.m. East Side Artist Salon		10 11-11:30 a.m. Baby Storytime		11 2-4 p.m. FunZONE: Games & Makerspace	
12		13 12-3 p.m. Job Search/Computer Skills/Open Lab 4-7 p.m. Homework Center (Snack 4-4:30)		14 12-3 p.m. Northstar Digital Literacy Open Lab 4-7 p.m. Homework Center (Snack 4-4:30) 6-8 p.m. Teens Know Best		15 12-3 p.m. Job Search/Computer Skills/Open Lab 4-7 p.m. Homework Center (Snack 4-4:30)		16 5:30-7:30 p.m. Writing Class: The Art of the Memoir * * SEE REVERSE FOR DETAILS		17 11-11:30 a.m. Baby Storytime		18 2-4 p.m. FunZONE: Games & Makerspace	
19		20 12-3 p.m. Job Search/Computer Skills/Open Lab		21 12-3 p.m. Northstar Digital Literacy Open Lab		22 12-3 p.m. Job Search/Computer Skills/Open Lab		23 10:30-11:30 a.m. Kaleidoscope: MN Opera Presents Stories Sing! * 5:30-7:30 p.m. Writing Class: The Art of the Memoir *		24 11-11:30 a.m. Baby Storytime		25 CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND	
26 CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND		27 CLOSED MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND		28 12-3 p.m. Northstar Digital Literacy Open Lab		29 12-3 p.m. Job Search/Computer Skills/Open Lab		30 10:30-11:30 a.m. Kaleidoscope: Petite Concerts * * SEE REVERSE FOR DETAILS		31 11-11:30 a.m. Baby Storytime			

SEE MORE ON REVERSE >



dayton's bluff

Featured

contact us
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Thursdays, May 23 & 30
10:30-11:30 am

May 23: Stories Sing! . Words and music come together for young ones with the help of a professional opera singer.

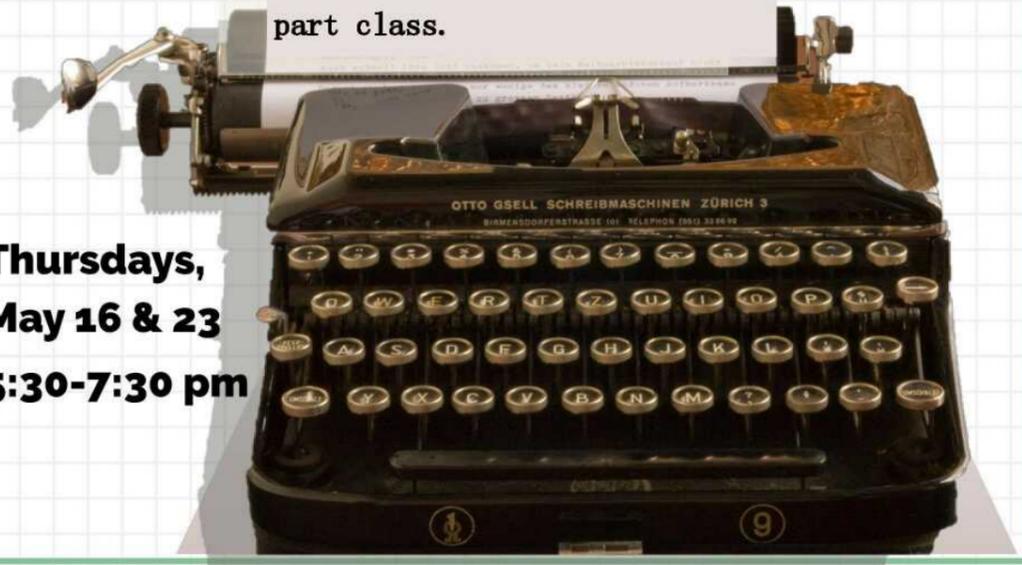
May 30: Petite Concerts . Build a love of classical music from an early age with this session tuned to a young audience.



Writing Class: The Art of the Memoir

With the theme "Reflections in Aging," COMPAS literary artist Louis Porter III leads the group in exercises that encourage you to share your unique narrative in this two-part class.

Thursdays, May 16 & 23
5:30-7:30 pm



health & wellness
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ASIAN PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

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View From My Porch: Thoughtful Thursdays

Sage Holben
Forum Staff

Have you been hearing more about people having 'real' conversations? Face to face, no cell phones present; perhaps a sense of empathy for what the other person is expressing?

Ben Herman, school counselor at Dayton's Bluff elementary school for the last five years, has been establishing a neighborhood opportunity for such conversation - specifically, conversation that focuses on 'what is important to you about our Dayton's Bluff school?'

The 'you' in the last sentence, applies to the resident who may or may not have a child currently attending Dayton's Bluff elementary school. In some neighborhoods, residents without school-age children are the substitute aunts, moms, and poppas to the young ones who live near by. The substitute caretakers who are ready with a hot meal, afterschool snacks, hugs when needed, Band-Aid, and positive words and thoughts...these people often see and experience what is needed to connect and enhance the lives of

children and families to our public schools. They understand it even if they do not have children in the school system. Ben would like to hear from you, as well as from the parents or adult family members of school children.

You might have young children and have decided on sending your child elsewhere...could you share your reasons? What sways your decision? What are your expectations of a school? Would you share your thoughts on the part a school plays in our area? In your connection with other families and children...in your own family...what are the dreams you hear about from and for our young children?

Ben has an apt name for his conversations: Thoughtful Thursdays. They happen once a month during the school year, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. RSVP to Ben Herman at 651-744-6917 or ben.herman@spps.org, or just show up. The rec center is connected to Dayton's Bluff Elementary school at 800 Conway Street, intersecting with Bates or Maria. Meeting is in the multipurpose room, Rec Center entrance. Look for signs when you enter.

Sage Holben can be reached by email at daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Considering a Move?

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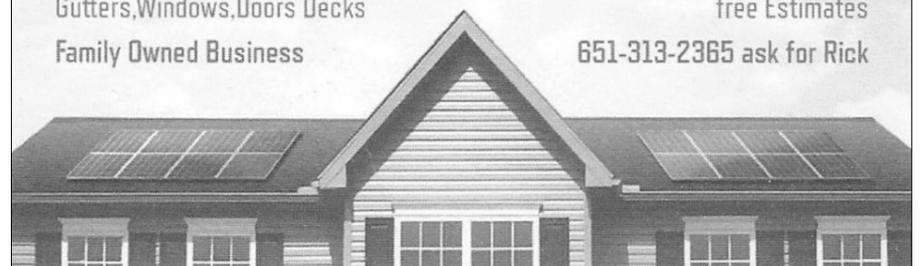
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St. Paul historic events in May

Steve Trimble
Forum Historian

Only one of these events is from the East Side, but they all seem timely and have a bit of connection with our community. One of these events tells a little about a Payne Avenue landmark. Connections? Many East Siders worked for the railroad, and lots of folks from this part of town visit the Como Zoo from time to time. There is lots of talk today about living wages, but as you will see, this is nothing new. Finally since the baseball season is underway, there almost has to be a short piece about that sport and a historic event for the Saints.

May 1, 1894: Eugene Debs and his American Railway Union (ARU) won the strike against James J. Hill's railroad on this day. In late 1893, the Great Northern Railroad had ordered three wage reductions in the preceding eight months prompting Debs to call a strike of the ARU members.

Debs, the founder of the ARU, arrived in St. Paul in April, exchanged several messages with Hill and eventually met with the president of the Great Northern Railroad. Within days, the Great Northern was brought to a standstill, hurting local businesses.

There were hard negotiations, but no agreement.

Seeking a solution to the impasse, the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce convinced Hill to enter into arbitration with Debs. The strike was settled after 18 days and the agreed-to contract that was signed met virtually all union demands.

The next day Debs left on the train to return home. All along the line, the section men stood along the tracks, with shovels in hand and took their hats off of as a show of respect to the labor leader. Debs later said that in all his life he had "never felt so highly honored as I did when leaving St. Paul."

May 12, 1994: People looking forward to a leisurely stroll in St. Paul's Como Zoo were in for a surprise. A gorilla known as Casey decided to take a stroll of his own. When the great ape found that he could jump

high enough to grab the top of his fifteen foot cement enclosure and swing down into the surrounding grounds, he began a 45 minute jaunt around the area.

While frightened visitors were hustled inside buildings, St. Paul police officers and zoo guards followed the 400 pound perambulating primate. Casey ambled over to the concession stand and sat on a table. After a few minutes, he hopped off the table and headed to the barn, peering through the windows and pulling on doors without success. The gorilla was shot in the lower left side of his rump with a tranquilizer dart. Instead of dropping, Casey pulled the medicated missile out and threw it away.

Just when people feared he would leave the zoo, Casey abruptly stopped. The veterinarian whom Casey might have associated with medical needles was standing by the gate. He moved away from the vet and headed to the gorilla enclosure, vaulted the fence and went down the wall, back into his yard.

May 25, 1869: John A. Ryan was born on this day on a farm south of St. Paul, the oldest of 11 children of Irish immigrants. He attended the Christian Brothers School, from which he graduated in 1887, and was the valedictorian of the 1892 graduation class at the College of Saint Thomas. He entered Saint Paul Seminary that fall, graduated in 1898, and was ordained a priest by Archbishop Ireland. Father Ryan was then sent to Washington D.C. and completed PhD studies in Theology at the Catholic University of America. He taught at Saint Paul Seminary until 1915, when he left to teach at the Catholic University of America. Ryan was the first Director of the National Catholic Welfare Council's Social Action Department, and was a pioneer in social justice advocacy and theory. Some of his books include *A Living Wage; Its Ethical and Economic Aspects* (1906), and *Distributive Justice: The Right and Wrong of Our Current Distribution of Wealth* (1916). There is a John Ryan Institute for Catholic Social Thought at the University of St. Thomas.

May 15, 2007: The Payne Avenue State Bank at 961-963 Payne Avenue was placed on the National Register of Historic Places today. Constructed in 1923, with its four large classical columns, it probably is the most impressive building on this commercial corridor of

the East Side. The building served as a center of commerce on a street that has been a major contributor to the city's immigrant history.

When it opened, the streetscape was filled with Scandinavian businesses and the structure became known as "The Swedish Bank Building." Over the years, it was a financial backbone of the early Scandinavians, Germans, Italians, and other settlers who established their cultural life in the neighborhood.

The Beaux-Arts style building was designed by William L. Alban, a graduate of the Chicago School of Architecture. He began practice in St. Paul in 1906, specializing in church and school architecture with a concern for creating what was called "formal order."

May 31, 1997: Ila Borders became the first female pitcher in a minor league professional baseball team on this day, after she signed with the St. Paul Saints. Having pitched for two colleges, she was described as a left-hander with a fastball in the low 80s and a big curve and screwball.



Photo courtesy Como Zoo

Casey the gorilla



Photo courtesy of Bill Alkofer/Pioneer Press

Ila Borders pitching for the St. Paul Saints in 1997.

She took to the mound for the first time on this day as a relief pitcher. It was not a good outing. She hit the first batter, balked and gave up three earned runs with no outs. Ila's next appearance was much improved. In one inning, she walked one but then struck out the side. One month into the regular season, she was traded to the Duluth-Superior Dukes as a reliever. While there, she became the first woman pitcher to record a win, going six innings and allowing just three hits.

By 2000 she was generally disappointed with her inability to get picked up by any major league team and retired. "You sometimes run into an attitude in the league about a woman playing, but it's only in the minors that I've heard 6,329 people chanting my name and cheering for me when I take the mound."

Steve Trimble can be reached at daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

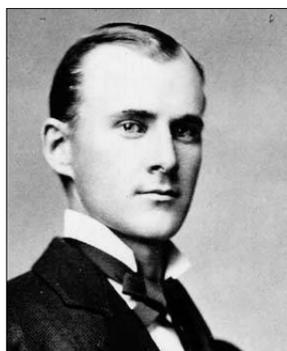


Photo courtesy of Wikipedia

Eugene Debs



Greg Cosimini

The Final Four may have been played in Minneapolis in early April but the rich and famous who attended it had to park their private jets somewhere else. Many of them ended up at Holman Field. Fortunately the flood walls and dike held back the mighty Mississippi as it reached flood stage and the planes stayed high and dry. Photo taken from Indian Mounds Park.

World Holidays #4

Temperance Brennan
Forum Contributor

Here we are again. Another month, another interesting group of World wide holidays to consider as you think about celebrating something in addition to Memorial Day this May.

As an anthropologist, I try to do just that. Here are a few suggestions related to the holidays below: Maybe eat at a Japanese restaurant, go visit the statue of Norwegian poet Henrik Ibsen in Como Park, read Paul Nelson's article in Ramsey County History about William T. Francis, a St. Paul African American who was appointed ambassador to Liberia, or perhaps watch the dragon boat races in Lake Phalen this year.

May 3: Constitutional Memorial Day. The Constitution of Japan came into force on May 3, 1947. Also known as Constitution Day and "Kenpo Kinenbi." The present Constitution declares that sovereignty lies with the people, asserts that people have fundamental human rights and renounces war.

May 5: Arrival Day is a holiday that commemorates the first arrival

of indentured laborers from India into Guyana in 1838 to work in sugar plantations. Their descendants today comprise 44% of Guyana's population.

May 14: National Unification Day, sometimes referred to as "Integration Day," is a holiday that seeks improved relations between the descendants of freed American slaves who colonized Liberia and the original native population.

May 17: Norwegian Constitution Day, known as Syttende Mai (seventeenth of May), celebrates the signing of the Constitution of Norway on this day in 1814 in an attempt to avoid being ceded to Sweden.

May 26: Independence Day in Georgia, which had been part of the Russian Empire since 1800. Following the Russian Revolution, movements within Georgia pushed for independence. In 1918, Georgia declared itself an independent democratic republic.

May 30: Anguilla Day, is the national holiday of Anguilla, a former British dependent territory and commemorates the island's determination of independence that finally occurred on December 19, 1980. The events of this day are celebrated with a colorful parade and a round-the-island boat race.

Temperance Brennan can be reached at daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Seeley Sez

Seeley Booth
Forum Contributor

Don't think the sewers are on fire like some terribly polluted rivers in the past this summer. I ran across a sheet of paper that explained why. It seems some of the East Side will be part of the Sewer Safety Testing Program.

Here's what I found on Google: "We (the City of Saint Paul) safety test the sewers to find leaks before they become larger problems. This testing is essential to keep our sewer system working well. We test our sewers by putting simulated smoke into the sewers to find leaks

and faulty connections. The test lasts about 30 minutes, and people may see the simulated smoke coming from manhole covers, storm drains, roof vents, or building foundations."

There is a map showing that the Dayton's Bluff area east of Conway and west of Mounds Boulevard as well as most of Battle Creek and Highwood are included in the sewer testing. Residents should fill floor drains and fixture traps with at least a gallon of water before **May 20**. I assume so the smoke won't get in your eyes.

There is a public information meeting on **Wednesday, May 1 (any time between 4:30 p.m. and 7:00 p.m.)** at the Battle Creek Recreation Center, 75 Winthrop Street South.

Seeley Booth can be reached at daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

East Side Eating: City Pages

Edited by Steve Trimble
Forum Staff

The annual "Best Of" issue of *City Pages* came out recently. The editors list dozens of their choice of the best food music, reading, etc., along with a list what their readers voted for. The two lists were often different. Below I have cut and pasted the four food "bests" that are connected with the East Side. Since the monthly publication didn't list their addresses, here are the spots and where you can find them.

Tongue in Cheek is located at 989 Payne Avenue, Cook St. Paul is at 1124 Payne Avenue, and **Brunson's Pub** sits at 956 Payne Avenue. Sweet Science Ice Cream is situated at 928 West 7th Street inside the renovated Schmidt building, founder and owner Ashlee Olds lives among us on Margaret Street in Dayton's Bluff.

A couple of comments - Tongue in Cheek won best "Prix Fixe Menu." I looked up the translation of the trendy French phrase and found that a prix fixe menu is a limited menu with fixed prices and a set list of dishes. Also, while Cook St. Paul does have some of the best Korean food because one of the owners is Korean, the menu is much more diverse. Here is what the *City Pages* wrote about our side of the Twin Cities:

"Best Prix Fix Menu: Tongue in Cheek. The approachable five-course tasting menu at Tongue in Cheek features inventive preparations with global influences—think a blueberry encapsulation with almonds and basil, potato kimchi cakes, and scallops with squid ink mustard and mushroom mousse. While a couple of dishes are carried over from the main menu, most are only offered via the prix fixe version, which switches up every few months to keep things interesting. Also noteworthy? The all-vegan iteration of the tasting menu shows the same level of imagination and skill, so plant-based eaters can indulge as well.

Best Korean Restaurant: Cook St. Paul. Some of the most exciting

food in the Twin Cities is coming out of a diner on Payne Avenue in St. Paul. For years, Eddie Wu of Cook St. Paul has brought diverse flavors—East Asian, Pacific Islander—to his classic American diner in the form of regular pop-ups (recently, the tantalizing Ono Hawaiian Plates). But the cuisine that kicked it all off was Korean, a cookery he learned as an apprentice at Sole Cafe, and it remains his passion and the primary influence here. Find it on the regular menu, in everything from the gochu fruit with chili flakes and the bi bim bop, to the Korean pancakes and the build-your-own juseyo bowl. Our favorite? The decidedly fun Mac & Chi, a kimchi-laced macaroni and cheese to drool over.

Best Neighborhood Bar in St. Paul: Brunson's Pub. One of the first things you might notice upon entering Brunson's Pub is the signed thank-you from the local squirt hockey team. Or the 20-seat bar that stretches from one end of this Payne-Phalen pub to the other. Or the vintage Hamm's memorabilia, a nod to the brewery that once thrummed along on St. Paul's East Side. Or maybe the smiling patrons, the friendly servers, or the scratch-made food on the tables—from \$1 seasoned pretzels to handsome bar burgers. Whatever you pick up on initially, you'll feel an easy comfort, and you'll swear this joint's been a neighborhood institution since before you were born. But it's a relative newcomer—opened by longtime local barman Thomas LaFleche and his wife, Molly, in 2017—and a very welcome addition to Payne Avenue.

Best Ice Cream: Sweet Science. Science ain't always sweet. (We've seen it tank the GPA of many a promising liberal arts student.) But in the case of Sweet Science founder and chef Ashlee Olds, it's never been sweeter. Olds puts her food science background to work, concocting small-batch, creative flavors with organic sugar and real fruit. It's a time-intensive undertaking that pays big dividends when it comes to creating bold, flavorful frozen treats. In the last year, the scoop shop—once available only at pop-ups and in grocery store freezer aisles—has debuted two brick-and-mortar locations of its own, meaning this gourmet ice cream is easier to find than ever. Stop by Keg and Case and get a flight, because you'll want to sample at least five flavors. Or ten."



Photo courtesy of City Pages

Brunson's Pub, located at 956 Payne Avenue on St. Paul's East Side.

Many thanks to our 2019 donors:

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Several readers send us pictures of themselves reading our newspaper on their travels, and around our neighborhood. If you'd like to do the same, please email photos to: daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Pictured above is Aaron Levine, reading the *Forum* at Tianzifang in Shanghai. Tianzifang is three blocks of winding alleys of old Shikumen architecture. It has been preserved and is now a collection of touristy shops, studios, restaurants, and even still homes of some local residents. It remains charming.

Friends of the *Forum*

Dear Reader,

The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* has been a volunteer-run newspaper since the 1980s and has always operated on a minimal budget. Each issue costs around \$1,900 to produce and mail, per month. For the past three years we have been soliciting donations through our *Friends of the Forum* program. Thanks to the donations of readers like you, we have been able to keep the paper up and running. If you value this community source of information, please consider filling out the form below. Any amount is appreciated; you may also make memorial donations, or include the *Forum* in your legacy planning. If you have been our *Friend* in the past, please renew your membership with a donation in 2019. **Our goal for 2019 is \$18,000; thanks to readers like you, we've raised \$1715 to date – will you help us reach our goal in 2019?**

Sincerely,
The *Dayton's Bluff District Forum*



Stephen Hurley reads the *Forum* in China, where he teaches for a few weeks at a university each year.

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