Gold Line BRT Project Update

Metro Transit Website

Dedicated bus rapid transit, or BRT, is often considered the transit technology that is most like light-rail transit. Dedicated BRT includes a package of transit enhancements that deliver fast, comfortable, and cost-effective services using special roadways or lanes dedicated to the exclusive use of buses.

The Gold Line project will be built on the north side of I-94 [on Hudson Road through Dayton’s Bluff]. These separate lanes ensure buses are never delayed due to traffic congestion. Approximately 80 percent of the METRO Gold Line will have exclusive lanes dedicated only to buses.

Gold Line BRT construction planning begins! On April 13, 2021, the Federal Transit Administration approved the project to prepare for construction. Project engineers will now develop the blueprints for construction, which is scheduled to begin in 2022. Some utility work is expected to begin in summer 2021. More information on the construction schedule will be available soon. Gold Line BRT remains on track to begin service in 2024.

For more information and updated schedules visit metrottransit.org/gold-line-project.

Donations Needed for Us to Print!

Forum Staff

The Dayton's Bluff District Forum staff is asking you to support our newspaper! Just a small donation can help us get our newspaper back to the printing press and mailed right to your door! Your donation will go toward printing and mailing costs. We miss having our newspaper delivered right at your front door and displayed in the businesses on Seventh Street.

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

Heritage Park Skatepark

Mandy Okonek

Wait, What? That ooey spooky piece of extended Swede Hollow leading to Lake Phalen past the old fenced off part of the Hamm’s Brewery? Yup. That’s Heritage Park.

Word is the Met Council has granted its blessing to the crew of Eastside skateboard aficionados known as the Taskforce to use Heritage Park as the space to build the destination skatepark of their dreams, and quite frankly mine and many others. As many of you know by the amount of solicitations from real estate companies wanting to buy our homes, right now, as is, for cash, property on the East Side is a hot commodity. So, this news is definitely a cause for celebration.

I firmly believe if we support the youth in our community by investing in a place for them to exercise, congregate, and most importantly, feel love and support from their community, we are all better for it.

With the closing of Wooddale Fun Zone and most recently the beloved Roller Garden, there is a need for places to roller skate and the folks from the Taskforce have promised to include space for us quad wheel skaters in their design.

Please reach out to the people in our community working their butts off to do something cool for our neighborhood and offer your support. The Eastside Skaterpark Taskforce is active on social media at facebook.com/Eastsideskateparktaskforce, where you can find out what local event they will pop up at to promote their cause and find out how you can help. Heritage Park has been in need of a facelift for many years and my fingers are crossed this reconstructive surgery includes a giant half pipe.

Upcoming Art in the Hollow Events

Benjamin Mason

In September, there will be a return to live events on the East Side. Solidarity Weekend will feature the second annual Solidarity Gallery along Payne Ave. from September 23-25, with local artwork featured in the shop's windows. There will be a number of musical events, vendors, and other gathering points, as pandemic control permits. This year's Solidarity festival will focus on Native American heritage and creativity while drawing together all East Siders.

On Saturday, September 25, Art in the Hollow will cap the weekend with vendors filling Swede Hollow Park once again. There will be art, music, history, and culture. It is hoped that the park can come alive just as it has in past summers.

You can visit the festival's website for more information: artinthehollow.org.

Work continues on the renovation of the American Indian Magnet School located at the intersection of Third and Earl. Bricks and windows are being installed on the south (Third St.) side of the addition while similar work will soon follow on the east side.

Donations Needed for Us to Print!

Forum Staff

The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum staff is asking you to support our newspaper! Just a small donation can help us get our newspaper back to the printing press and mailed right to your door!

Your donation will go toward printing and mailing costs. We miss having our newspaper delivered right at your front door and displayed in the businesses on Seventh Street.

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

Heritage Park Skatepark

Mandy Okonek

Wait, What? That ooey spooky piece of extended Swede Hollow leading to Lake Phalen past the old fenced off part of the Hamm’s Brewery? Yup. That’s Heritage Park.

Word is the Met Council has granted its blessing to the crew of Eastside skateboard aficionados known as the Taskforce to use Heritage Park as the space to build the destination skatepark of their dreams, and quite frankly mine and many others. As many of you know by the amount of solicitations from real estate companies wanting to buy our homes, right now, as is, for cash, property on the East Side is a hot commodity. So, this news is definitely a cause for celebration.

I firmly believe if we support the youth in our community by investing in a place for them to exercise, congregate, and most importantly, feel love and support from their community, we are all better for it.

With the closing of Wooddale Fun Zone and most recently the beloved Roller Garden, there is a need for places to roller skate and the folks from the Taskforce have promised to include space for us quad wheel skaters in their design.

Please reach out to the people in our community working their butts off to do something cool for our neighborhood and offer your support. The Eastside Skaterpark Taskforce is active on social media at facebook.com/Eastsideskateparktaskforce, where you can find out what local event they will pop up at to promote their cause and find out how you can help. Heritage Park has been in need of a facelift for many years and my fingers are crossed this reconstructive surgery includes a giant half pipe.

Upcoming Art in the Hollow Events

Benjamin Mason

In September, there will be a return to live events on the East Side. Solidarity Weekend will feature the second annual Solidarity Gallery along Payne Ave. from September 23-25, with local artwork featured in the shop's windows. There will be a number of musical events, vendors, and other gathering points, as pandemic control permits. This year's Solidarity festival will focus on Native American heritage and creativity while drawing together all East Siders.

On Saturday, September 25, Art in the Hollow will cap the weekend with vendors filling Swede Hollow Park once again. There will be art, music, history, and culture. It is hoped that the park can come alive just as it has in past summers.

You can visit the festival's website for more information: artinthehollow.org.
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, located at Earl Street and Mounds Boulevard. 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.

Due to COVID-19, hikes are canceled. Please check back for more information at a later date.

If you have any questions email karindupa@aol.com

Friends of Swede Hollow

Friends of Swede Hollow watch over, restore, and celebrate the history of Swede Hollow Park. Join the Swede Hollow Park Advisory at their monthly meetings. We have changed our meeting date to the second Thursday of each month.

Due to the COVID-19 virus, there will be no meetings until further notice. Please check back at a later date for more information. Email karindupa@aol.com 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 Thursday, July 1st at 11:00 a.m. If you’d like to attend, call 651-776-0550 or email daytonbluffdis-trictforum@gmail.com for more information. We are currently meeting at the Cambric, in the meeting room.

Police Community Meetings

The Eastern District Saint Paul Police hosts their monthly meetings for community members at the Eastern District Police Office at 722 Payne Avenue, on the corner of Payne and Minnehaha Avenues. The meetings are intended as a time to learn, listen, and address people’s concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side. Policing meetings held at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. Bring your neighbors!

Call or email Rohyn at 651-266-5580 or rphayburn@stpaulpolice.com to ensure July’s meetings have not been canceled.

We will be adhering to Gov. Walz’s order to wear a face covering and limit participation to 50% capacity. 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 podría calificar. Participar en el programa SNAP no afectará su estatus migratorio. ¡Llame a CLUES para saber si califica! 612-746-3500. Nuestro personal bilíngue 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. 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.

Due to the COVID-19 virus, the Historic Mounds Theatre is temporarily closed and all events have either been canceled or postponed to a later date. Please visit our website at moundsdoutheatre.org for more information regarding the re-opening and upcoming events.

The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN55106; 651-772-2253; historicmoundsdoutheatre@gmail.com

Free Human and Health Services

United Way 2-1-1 provides free and confidential health and human services information for people in Minnesota, 24 hours a day, seven days a week, connecting you with the resources and information you need: Alcohol & Drug Abuse; Child Care; Consumer Regulation; Financial Assistance Programs; Healthcare; Money Management; Transportation; Animal Services; Criminal Justice & Legal Services; Employment; Food/Housing/Shelter; Tax Organizations & Services; Utilities (includes phones); Mental Health. When calling 2-1-1 you will need to enter your ZIP code and then will hear a menu of services. Be patient, please. With COVID-19 lines are busy. You may be given options to wait on the line.

Dayton’s Bluff Library

The library is hosting plenty of ongoing fun, virtual activities for all ages. Listed below are some July events.

July 1-Vietnamese Conversation Group, 6-7 p.m.
July 5-11- Virtual Summer Spark: Jolly Pop, all day event
July 14-Virtual Summer Spark: Lalo’s Lunchbox Livestream, 10-11 a.m.

SNAP Food Program at CLUES.

July 15- Online, Elevate: City of St. Paul Employment Info Session, 4-5:30 p.m.
July 19- Virtual Summer Spark: But- terfly Life Cycle Dance with Karla Nwego, all day event
July 26- Virtual Summer Spark: Ralph’s World Twin Cities TV House episode, all day event
Visit sppl.org’s calendar section to find more information about these events.

Business Classes

The Dayton’s Bluff Neighborhood Microentrepreneur Class program helps start up and young businesses on the East Side. All East Side entrepreneurs are welcome. Class training lasts eight weeks and includes topics such as: operations management, marketing, financial management, one-on-one assistance with creating a successful business, and training a business plan. Plus eight hours of one-on-one time with the instructor.

Those who successfully complete the course and locate their businesses in the Twin Cities 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, art, custom floral design, 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 based on a sliding scale. Class sizes are limited, so enroll now. Please call 651-379-8432 for a current application.

Helpful Phone Numbers

Social Security Admin: 1-800-772-1213 — Service available from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. on business days. Call to provide notification of death or to inquire about survivor benefits.

U.S. Dept. of Veterans Affair (VA): 1-800-827-1000 — Call for survivor benefits, burial benefits, or to provide notification of death.

United Way: 2-1-1 and Metro: 2-1-1 or 651-291-0211

Free, confidential, multi-lingual information is offered 24 hours every day. United Way 2-1-1 is a unique community information and referral service. Call if you need to know where to turn for help.

Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program

Family Homeless Prevention Assistance Program (FHPAP) funds can help single folks, too.

Here is a list of agencies that help with deposit and/or rent assistance through FHPAP:

- Neighborhood House: 651-789-2500
- MN Community Care: 651-266-1290
- American Indian Family Center: 651-793-3803
- CLUES: 612-746-3550

YMCA: 763-493-3052
Face to Face: 651-224-9644

Xcel Phone Numbers


Call 811 Before You Dig: Before starting that rooter or hearing that shovel into the ground for anything, call 811. At no charge, Xcel will have someone check the area on your property or on the boulevard to be sure there are no wires, pipes, other hidden surprises in the designated digging area. Usually, same day checks within a day (allowing a couple days is helpful), marking the no-dig area with painted lines...and everyone is safe!

Community Garden Plots Available

Have you ever harvested and eaten your own carrots, tomatoes or lettuce? If so, you know how delicious they are, not to mention nutritious, inexpensive, and a great way to spend time outdoors! Skidmore Park Community Garden has 24 raised bed plots that are available to the public. Cost is $20. Grants are available. For more information or to request an application, email Steve Lee at Steve12743@yahoo.com.

Financial Assistance

Increased financial assistance is available for Ramsey County residents who lost income due to COVID-19 and need help paying for housing costs. Residents may be eligible for Emergency Assistance that can help pay for past due rent/mortgage, a damage deposit, or prevent utilities including water, electricity, and heat from being disconnected.

Go to ramseycounty.us/Emergen-cyAssistance or call the Emergency Assistance hotline at 651-266-4884.

ESLC Seeking Volunteer Tutors

East Side Learning Center is seeking a virtual volunteer tutor to be part of their literacy program.

If you’re interested, call Shoua Khang, the volunteer coordinator, at 651-808-8107.

Free Legal Services for Low-Income People

Call SMRLS (Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services) at 1-888-575-2954 or go to smrls.org to see if you qualify for free legal assistance with: Family law, government benefits, housing, education, seniors, immigration, and labor workers.

Other: beyond on your bills, having problems with credit or creditors, or if you have been sold defective goods, or someone stays with you, call 211 or 811 to be able to help through their volunteer at-torney panel.

If an interpreter is needed, SMRLS will provide one.

Hours: Monday through Friday, 9 til 11:45 a.m. ; 1 to 3 p.m.

Page 2
Dayton’s Bluff District Forum
July 2021

July 26- Virtual Summer Spark: Ralph’s World Twin Cities TV House episode, all day event
Visit sppl.org’s calendar section to find more information about these events.

Express your concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side.

Police Office at 722 Payne Avenue, on

Community members at the Eastern District Police hosts their monthly meetings for community members at the Eastern District Police Office at 722 Payne Avenue, on the corner of Payne and Minnehaha Avenues.

The meetings are intended as a time to learn, listen, and address people’s concerns about crime and other issues on the East Side. Policing meetings held at 9:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of each month. Bring your neighbors!

Call or email Rohyn at 651-266-5580 or rphayburn@stpaulpolice.com to ensure July’s meetings have not been canceled.

We will be adhering to Gov. Walz’s order to wear a face covering and limit participation to 50% capacity.

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...
Pet of the Month

Dandy Sandy
Kari Soefker

I grew up on a dairy farm in Cologne, Minnesota. My father enjoyed farming and cows since they produce milk, but was not interested in getting me a horse, as they do not produce anything and just consume hay.

Since I could not have a horse as a child, I decided to train and ride this calf, "Dandy Sandy."

Police Reform

Claire Martin

One of the most talked about agenda items at city council meetings across the country is police reform. Cities large and small have experienced violence in the streets in the past year often likened to the unrest during the Civil Rights movement and the Vietnam War protests. Adding to the violence was the January 6 attack on our nation’s capital, which overpowered the police; killing five and injuring hundreds. Leaders realize that police reform is greatly needed everywhere, not just in our cities. But in our cities, with mayors and councils, is a vital place to begin.

Mayor Melvin Carter of St. Paul, MN released his “Community-First Police Reform” initiative for greater public safety and improved trust between law enforcement and Saint Paul communities. To achieve these goals, Carter’s proposal would make essential reforms to current police practices to increase accountability and trust, implement innovative community policing strategies, and make the investments our community needs to prevent crime before it starts.

“Saint Paul residents have made clear that community safety is a top concern, but making our neighborhoods safer for everyone will require a new approach,” said Carter. "True community safety means preventing crime before it happens — by investing in strong neighborhoods — and ensuring that our police officers have the training, tools, and community connections they need to ensure greater safety for all Saint Paul residents.”

Examples of police reform have been put into practice in some of our major cities. In Albuquerque, New Mexico, Mayor Tim Keller responded quickly to community pleas for police reform. As early as June of 2020 Keller called for an increase in police staff, as well as cooperation with social service agencies.

The city of Eugene, Oregon offers a prototype of police reform that has been working in their community for 30 years. While every city must tailor their programs to the needs of their citizens and the problems they face, adopting some ideas that are already working in other cities could help speed the process of reform.

Crisis Assistance Helping Out On The Streets (CAHOOTS) is a mobile crisis intervention program staffed by White Bird Clinic personnel using City of Eugene vehicles. This relationship has been in place for nearly 30 years and is well embedded in the community.

CAHOOTS provides support for EPD personnel by taking many of the social service type calls for service to include crisis counseling. CAHOOTS personnel often provide initial contact and transport for people who are intoxicated, emotionally ill, or disoriented, as well as transport for necessary non-emergency medical care.

Police reform across our country must take place, and being in cahoots with other cities that have these programs already in place sounds like a win-win partnership for us all.

Hidden beauty!
A knapweed plant was spotted on one of Mark's bike rides through Swede Hollow. What's interesting, is that most plants in the area are generally considered weeds, not flowers. Some are invasive, some are native. But they're generally considered wildflowers, no matter what.

Swede Hollow, A Series

A Little More Background
Karin DuPaul

Today, the Hamm woodland garden in upper Swede Hollow Park is the site of the Hamm home that was at 671 Cable, now Greenbrier. It appears that the house had a carriage path that encircled the house.

This month I will share a little more about the upper part of Swede Hollow Park. As mentioned in the June article, the upper part of Swede Hollow Park was once the site of the Hamm family home.

The family lived down the hill next to the Hamm’s Brewery from 1864 until the Hamm adult children had a new home built for their parents who were visiting back home in Germany. Son William Hamm and his sisters hired architect Augusta Gauger to design a new home for their parents at 671 Cable Ave. on the bluff overlooking the brewery. When the elder Hamm's family returned from Germany, instead of taking them to their home at the brewery, they continued up East 7th St. to their new home in Dayton’s Bluff.

After the deaths of the elder Hammers, William and his family moved across the street into the 671 Cable Ave. and lived out their lives in that beautiful home. After that, the house was used as a nursing home run by Claire Robbins. The house became vacant in the early 1950s and in 1954, a young boy skipped school one day and set the beautiful old home on fire. Because of the heavy damage, the house was demolished.

In 1976 the former Hamm family home site and yard became the upper part of Swede Hollow Park.
Summer Activities at Dayton's Bluff Library

Dayton's Bluff Library

The summer sun is out, and Summer Spark is here! Summer Spark encourages kids and teens ages zero to 18 to have fun, stay active, and keep learning all summer long. Join in the fun by attending free virtual programs and earning prizes by completing reading and activity challenges. Kids and teens can earn book prizes, bookmarks, and journals. Summer Spark runs from through August 31. Stop into the library to choose a free book to keep and a reading and activity log. You can also track reading on the Beanstack app. In need of some inspiration? Pick up one of our Summer Spark Take and Make kits which includes a sculpture activity, nature walk kit, and butterfly cross stitch. Are you a teen who likes to read? Teens Know Best (TKB) might be for you! Teens ages 12 to 18 who want to read and review young adult novels that aren’t available to the public yet can participate. Young adult publishers read TKB reviews and use them to influence the future of the publishing industry. We are a safe space to meet other teens from around the city who love books, too. TKB is sponsored by Metropolitan State University and Saint Paul Public Library. Members can pick up books at Dayton’s Bluff Library and we meet every second Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. Visit sppl.org/teens-know-best/ for the most current meeting information. Contact TKB at teesknowbestsppl@gmail.com.

Have you heard about our expanded hours? Dayton’s Bluff Library is now open Mondays and Wednesdays noon to 8 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays 10 a.m. to 8 p.m., Fridays 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., and Saturdays 11:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. The outdoor book drop can be accessed at any time. Current hours are available at sppl.org/locations/DB/ or call 651-783-1109.

Get out of the summer heat for a moment and enjoy our comfortable seating options while reading a book or newspaper. Kids can enjoy our updated space with seating options, brighter lighting, and activities like scavenger hunts, coloring pages, or a lively conversation with our Children’s Specialist.

Dayton’s Bluff Library now offers Career Lab hours Monday through Thursday 1 to 5 p.m. Reservations are recommended for one-to-one assistance, but walk-ins are welcome. Career Lab is a program for people who have experienced job loss, a reduction in hours, change or loss of household income, uncertainty in their industry, or any other recent impact to their financial well-being. We provide services to community members as they seek employment, build career skills, and navigate career transitions.

Dayton’s Bluff Library will be closed Monday, July 5 in observance of Independence Day.

Visit the library to sign up for Summer Spark and browse the Take and Make kits.

St. Paul Farmer’s Market Dates for July

St. Paul Farmer’s Market

Our Farmer’s Markets bridge the gap between local growers and the neighboring communities by providing access to healthy foods, and helping to sustain the lifestyle of small, independent farmers, local food makers, and their families.

The St. Paul Farmer’s Market (SPFM) allows only fresh, locally grown produce, goods, artisan foods, confections and other products offered are produced locally as well. The Saint Paul Farmer’s Market is an extremely popular attraction in downtown Saint Paul. Free street parking (on Sundays only) as well as paid parking locations are available on a first-come, first-served basis.

The Saint Paul Farmers’ Market is located at 200 5th Street East in downtown Saint Paul.

The SPFM will run every Saturday and Sunday in July. Saturday hours are from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. and Sunday hours are from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Dayton’s Bluff District Forum

668 Greenbrier St., St. Paul, MN 55106
Phone: 651-776-0550
E-mail: daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com

Monthly circulation: 7,000; also available online at daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org. This publication of Hopewell Communications, Inc., a nonprofit organization, is intended to provide a forum for the ideas and opinions of its readers and to be an instrument for developing community awareness and pride. Signed articles do not necessarily represent the views of the Forum. Material from this paper may be republished if it is attributed to the Dayton’s Bluff District Forum and to the author, if any. Articles and letters to the editor are welcome and may be emailed to daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com, or mailed to the address above. The Dayton’s Bluff District Forum is delivered to every home and business in the Dayton’s Bluff neighborhood when the budget permits. We are currently online only. Outside this area, subscriptions cost $15 per year and may be arranged by calling 651-776-0550.

Board of Directors: Greg Costimini, Karin DuPaul, Jennifer Gausigone, Sage Holben, Steve Tremble
Editor/layout: Allison Lund-Zaleski; Editorial Associate: Mark Gallagher
Staff: Mandy Okonek, Clara Martin, Clare Howard

Book Review
Daughters of the Lake
by Wendy Webb
Allison Lund-Zaleski

This is one of Wendy Webb’s newest novels. I have to say I was a bit disappointed overall in the outcome of the story. Like I’ve said in my other reviews of her books, they are a bit slow to begin with, but she ends up throwing in twists that make the entire book worth reading. While she does exactly this in Daughters of the Lake, I found myself waiting for it to happen sooner than it did.

Generally, she knows how to make a reader’s heart race with the spooky ghost stories she writes. This one fell short. I found myself figuring out the plot faster than normal, too. While that part wasn’t too subtle to begin with in the book, it was just a let down to kind of know that I got it right. In The Vanishing, she had my jaw dropping with the plot twist, Daughters of the Lake, not so much.

One thing I did like in this book, though, was that there were great characters and the development of the characters that we don’t see in some of her books. However, I found myself thinking — did she waste too much time on the development of characters when the ghosts and suspense needed that focus more? I also like the fact that the chapters alternated from present day to the early 1900s. It makes it a fast read. There was one particular part in the book that was flat out unnecessary to the plot. I just wonder why she decided to keep it in the book. So I won’t reveal anything crucial, I basically dedicated one chapter for a major part in the book and just like that, it was over with and the problem the characters faced was fixed in a matter of one chapter. Again, so I am not spoiling anything: readers will understand that this part also doesn’t make any sense.

The book is about Kate who finds herself in the middle of a messy divorce and goes to Wharton to escape her husband while the divorce is being processed. She and her dad find a body of a woman washed onto the shore. Somehow Kate feels as though she knows this woman. They also find a major clue hidden with the woman. Kate finds her self-invested in this mystery and helps the local police detective find more clues.

Webb ties in her supernatural writing by giving Kate the powers to dream the past. Could Kate be dreaming about this woman who’s washed up? Will she find out what happened to this woman and how she died?

Although, so far, this is not one of the most exciting books Webb has written, it is worth the read. If you decide to read several of her books, you’ll really notice how much her writing style has changed and how much it’s progressed since her earlier books. If not for the story, read the book because she’s a great writer. So far, the books I read of Webb’s all take place in Minnesota, so that’s fun to read and relate to, as well.

If you’d like to write a book review about Minnesota-based stories or authors, send it to daytonsbldistrictforum@gmail.com.

Letter to the Editor
As an elected Saint Paul School Board member and a parent of four (St. Paul Public School) SPPS students, I want to start by acknowledging the enormous amount of work that our students, parents, and families put forth on the home front to support our distance learning model virtually with teachers, staff, and administration leaders throughout SPPS. We asked our students, parents, and families to rearrange their work schedule and to re-prioritize health above all else. Thank you. Your work will not be lost on me as we move out of the COVID-19 pandemic.

If I could sum up the last school year in one word, then it would be “revealing”. The lessons I’ve learned from COVID-19 are emphasizing a flexible learning model, mastering protocols to mitigate the spread of disease, and having patience to allow reliable data to drive decision-making.

In retrospect, COVID-19 only revealed systemic inequities existing in SPPS for decades such as language barriers for English as a second language learners, lack of a reciprocal communication system to report on progress of learning models between student, parent, family, teacher, and administrative leaders, along with predictable student outcomes based on race.

Going into the fall, I intend to learn from COVID-19 and focus on identifying actionable data to drive decision-making. I want to promote a more effective and rapid reciprocal communication system. I want to promote learning programs and curriculum such as language immersion and ethnic studies that can be found in our students’ home and school life. I want to listen to and learn from families, students, and educators from throughout the city. You are welcome to write to me at jim.vue@spps.org.

Interested in Working with Animals?
Animal Humane Society

Did you know there are more than 100 different jobs at Animal Humane Society? It’s true! There are so many different ways you can get involved with animals. Register for this new program and learn about some of the jobs you know, and some you will be surprised by.

You’ll see the inner-workings of Animal Humane Society, hear from guest speakers, assist in our Vet Center, and more. Plus, we will have games, crafts, and hanging out with animals. These sessions are for seventh to tenth graders. The session size holds six participants and costs $75.

Sessions are one week, meeting Tuesdays, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9 a.m. to noon.

Sessions run from July 13-15, July 20-22, July 27-29, August 3-5, August 10-12, or August 17-19.

Participants will meet at AHS Vet Center, 1159 University Ave W, St Paul.
Go to animalhumanesociety.campbrainregistration.com to register.

Summer Events at East Immanuel Church
East Side Immanuel Church

Thursday Hot dog Outreach — July through August: Every Thursday from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Hungry? Grab a hot dog, chips, and drink and gather togethe with East Immanuel and the community. There will be bubbles for kids! Volunteers will be available for prayer needs and questions about God.

FCA Pursue Sports Camp — July 13, 14, and 15: Join our friends from Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) for three days of fun activities and learning about Jesus. This camp is for children in first through fourth grades. The camp runs from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Rocky Railway VBA — August 3, 4, and 5: Hop on the Rocky Railway as we see how Jesus’ power pulls us through. Each day at Rocky Railway Vacation Bible Adventure, kids track through field-tested rotations that reinforce relevant Bible points and immerse kids in new adventures. This camp is for children four years old through fifth grade. The camp will run from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

All events listed above are free for the public and children. To register your child for these camps or if you’d like to volunteer, go to eastimmanuel.org.

A large crowd came to honor the memory of a Dayton’s Bluff former resident for his leadership of the disabled community on June 13, 2021 for Rick Cardenas Day in Ramsey County.
There is no song about the day heavy metal music died in Saint Paul. Perhaps, some creative with an acoustic guitar should get on that.

Before live music was pandemic-paused, in 2014 the heavy metal mecca, located at 4th and Sibley, known as Station 4, The Lab, and most fondly, Ryan’s, closed its doors for good and soon a For Sale sign appeared.

For a fan of loud, fast amplified music, ripping guitars, and the roaring thump of a double bass pedal, Saint Paul’s appeal faded into obscurity.

However, on the first Thursday of June, in the burning hellsfire of an unusually warm late spring, the gods of metal erupted from the scorching heat in the middle of the earth and gave their blessing.

On July 1, August 5, and September 2 Northeaster Bar will host Heavy Thursdays, complete with choppers, vans, music, and vendors.

For your live music fix in the interims, Caydence Records has local musicians playing outdoors on their sidewalk patio, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons; and they make an amazing iced coffee.

To get your live music fix in the interim, Caydence Records has local musicians playing outdoors on their sidewalk patio, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday afternoons; and they make an amazing iced coffee.

For more information about Northstar Bar please follow them on their social media page, facebook.com/nhsbarandgrill.

July Events Happening in Ramsey County

July 1, 8, 11 a.m.-noon: Right Track Plus Employer Information Session: Employers: Make a difference in your community with Right Track Plus by providing new opportunities, fostering diverse talent and supporting young people.

July 5, 1-2 p.m.: Virtual Career Club — Career Direction: Career Direction: assessments and job searching tips.

July 7, 11, 1:30-5:30 p.m.: COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic: Ramsey County Public Health offers free COVID-19 vaccination clinics for all eligible individuals. This clinic is for the second dose for Pfizer.

July 10, noon-3 p.m.: COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic: Ramsey County Public Health offers free COVID-19 vaccination clinics for all eligible individuals. Pfizer, age 12 and up — first or second dose OR Moderna — second dose only.

July 10, noon-3 p.m.: COVID-19 Vaccine Clinic: Ramsey County Public Health offers free COVID-19 vaccination clinics for all eligible individuals. Pfizer, age 12 and up — first or second dose OR Moderna — second dose only.

July 10, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.: Boating with Rice Creek Boat Club: Join the Rice Creek Boat Club at this free event to demo recreation and racing kayaks, stand-up paddleboards, canoes, and surf skis.

July 12, 1-2 p.m.: Virtual Job Club — Resumes & Interviews: Create a resume that gets you the interview.

July 13, 27, 6:30-8 p.m: Archery in the Park: Try your hand at the exciting and challenging sport of archery through this free event at Keller Regional Park.

July 16, 23, 30, 6:30-7:30 p.m.: Let’s Go Fishing!: Join us for free fishing opportunities for youth ages 15 and under. Participants will learn basic fishing techniques and skills.


July 26, 1-2:30 p.m: Virtual Job Club — Interviewing: Interviewing Success plus open forum.

For more information about these events, go to ramseycounty.us/calendar.

Recipe

Kreplach

Sage Holben

Ingredients:

Pastry:
- 2 C. flour
- 2 eggs
- 1 T. cold water
- ½ tsp. salt

Filling:

Mix together:
- ½ lb ground beef
- ½ lbground beef (as ground beef with highest percentage of fat; this gives the best flavor. Ask the butcher if not in display)
- ½ C. onion, finely chopped
- salt and pepper to taste
- pinch of garlic powder

Directions:

Pastry:
With fork, lightly beat eggs, mix into flour and salt; gradually add water. Dough will be sticky, but do not over-flour or overwork. Form dough into ball, place on floured board and knead until smooth and elastic. Cover dough with bowl and allow to rest about one-half hour while mixing filling (below).

Then roll dough thin and cut into one- or two-inch square. Depending on size of square, place a teaspoon of soup/brisket of uncoked filling in middle of square. Fold square to form a triangle, very lightly moistening edges of dough and pressing to seal. Cook in boiling salted water or in soup broth for about 20 minutes (dumplings will pop to surface) until the noodle pastry is thoroughly cooked.

NOTE: * I often freeze dumplings by removing cooked kreplach and draining them. I place them individually on a plate or tin, freeze, and then bag/young for longer freezer storage. Heat and serve in shallow bowl of beef or chicken broth.

Here’s the backstory of Kreplach in my life:

I grew up outside of Chicago. My mother was a terrific cook and baker, working in restaurants and area supper clubs. Some of her best — our favorite dishes, though, came from her life in Negaunee, Michigan (aka Upper Peninsula, the UP). Her family of Robert and Pelto, were mostly miners of Finnish, Scottish, French and English background. Negaunee, specifically, with its mining, brought together many ethnicities...and great foods which became common to our childhoods, among them: kreplach (Jewish), pasties (Welsh), cudhagi (Italian), and Swedish meatballs. Thankfully, she never forced lutefisk or her beloved blood sausage on us!

The pasty, from Wales (the miners’ historic lunch favorite), was always one of our most favorite foods. As a kid in Bloomingdale, Illinois, when my mother made pasties late at night, a hot, wrapped one, emitting its enticing aromas from my 6th grade school desk, would likely be stolen.

If you’d like to submit your favorite recipe, please send it to: dayton bluffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Kreplach from a 6th grade school desk, would likely be stolen.

Mandy Okonek

The Northstar Bar and Grill is pictured above, where every month through September they host live, loud heavy metal bands and vendors.
Gendy Yarusso's Story

Steve Trimble

Here is another of Gareth Hiebert’s columns that was contained in his book Oliver’s Towns that remembers one of the East Side historians. The column, written in March 1980, was headed “Remembering Gentile.” All of Hiebert’s writing will be in quotations. It was long, so I edited it down.

“The last time I was with Gentile Yarusso, so we were having lunch in Geno’s Payne Avenue Italian restaurant and he was talking about his favorite subject—the Italian neighborhood along ‘the Avenue’ in days past. He...spun out his feelings and vivid vignettes of almost forty years along that stretch of Payne from Minnehaha and Hamm’s...to East Seventh Street with tiny streets fingering like arms in both directions....

This was Gentile (they always called him Gendy) Yarusso’s Payne Avenue and he wrote about it with a facile pen and mind, filling files full of tales of the first generation immigrant families...he wrote about the little things of life in that time—always so big in memories.

Some of the reminiscences were about smell. Gendy said, “I come in here to Geno’s...and sniff the spicy aromas and I smell. Gendy said, “I come in here to Geno’s...and sniff the spicy aromas and I smell.”

“People ask me many times why I live in the old familiar places. But I would not want to come back and live in the old familiar streets, I begin to call out names of families who once lived there. The rich, garlicky and pungent odors of pickle brine and cheese olives and fish overflowing through open windows and store entrances.”

This was written by Hiebert soon after Gentile’s funeral at the old St. Anthony Church on lower Payne near Collins Street. “I met Gentile in 1946 when I was writing about the city’s ethnic communities. Everyone referred me to Gendy because even then he was the historian, the oracle of ‘the Avenue’—working in the Hamm’s bottling department by day and studying and writing at night. He finally got his high school diploma, a feat which earned the respect of his teachers.”

Hiebert includes a section about the fact that during the Prohibition era that most alcohol was made in the old familiar places. He wrote about the first barrel to taste it after rolling it around in his mouth, swallowing, and giving his opinion.

Gentile loved music, especially opera. His uncle Fred was an accomplished musician. “Uncle Frank decided one summer to write and produce an opera on Payne Avenue called ‘The Avenue’...dedicated to the patron Saint of the Italians. More than 2,500 people turned out as the curtain went up on a stage of old railroad ties and scrap wood, though. Shall we do some research?”

Hiebert ends his column by offering Gentile’s own words: “People ask me many times why I live in the old familiar places. But I would not want to come back and live there again. Memory is what enables man to survive and to progress. We don’t like to see people we love taken away. For when they go, they take part of you down.”

We Have Three Easy Ways for You to Donate!

If you’d like to see future issues printed again, please consider donating. We have three ways for you to do so:

- Donate electronically via PayPal at dayton bluff district forum@gmail.com
- Make checks payable to Dayton’s Bluff District Forum and mail to: 668 Greenbrier Street, Saint Paul, MN 55106
- Donate by going to: giveMN.org/organization/Hopewell-Communications-Incorporated

Be sure to keep up with us online in one of four ways:

\[-Website at daytonbluffdistrictforum.org
\[-Facebook at Dayton’s Bluff District Forum
\[-Instagram at Dayton’s Bluff District Forum
\[-Nextdoor at Dayton’s Bluff District Forum.

View From My Porch

A Precious Moment

Sage Holben

Why would you do that?” I judged the girl to be about 14 years old and she knew what I meant, as she waved her arm in front of her body and kept walking toward me. A few minutes earlier, I had seen from my window that she had pushed over the mannequin legs on the traffic art installation my neighbors had helped position in our intersection days before. I went out and scooped up the goopy asphalt that had anchored the legs. Now I stood in the street, asphalt bag in my hand, wondering if the approaching girl viewed my bag as a weapon, and me wondering if I would use it as such if needed. But her body language erased any sense of emanating antagonism. As she came closer, the girl answered: “I was bored.”

“You want to talk about it? We could sit on my porch or sit here, on the curb. But I’ll need help getting up if we sit here.”

She said something about age and we both laughed. I had never seen this youth before and, as we sat side by side, asked her what was going on. After a bit of silence, she replied, “family issues.” She wasn’t the oldest child in the family, not quite the youngest. I told her I had been the second oldest of five, with lots of family problems, from alcoholism, drugs, abuse, violence, moving... So, there wasn’t too much new to me. She turned her head to face me, tears in her eyes, asking, “How do you know when someone really likes you? I don’t fit in. I’m not like others.” “You’re beautifully unique as you are. You don’t have to change, just be yourself.” I sounded like Mr. Rogers, and my words sounded too pat to me. We sat in silence before she turned to me and said, “You’re a good listener.” A few moments of quiet, and my new acquaintance said she had to go now. She stood and said, “Let me help you up.” I extended my hands, palms up, saying they are too fleshy, greasy with tar, to let her get her hands dirty. “That’s ok,” and she took my hand after two tries and laughter, I told her I would just have to push myself up with my hands and stick my butt into the air since my knees wouldn’t help push. We laughed again, me with my face dripping with sweat on this humid, hot day, and she with tears, but now with a smile. In the meantime, a neighbor came walking toward us from behind, thinking I may have fallen, and a driver stopped her car and asked if we were ok, had I fallen. The young girl and I shared a hug, and we were off, with reassurance to the others. It was a beautiful day in our neighborhood.
Some of them are in smallish lettering nated menu that is on the wall above. But most people weren’t wearing them.

There were six tables that seated four people and one bigger one for larger parties. You might want to order a The House Specialty: Churro (beef), shrimp chorizo with rice, beans, and some more interesting with tacos with tripa (stomach) Cabeza (head) for meat. If you have a large family or having a party, you might want to order a The House Specialty. Churro with choice of beef, shrimp chorizo with rice, beans, avocado, six nachos, plantain, and avocado. The family combos contain 22 rosca de tacos dorados, crispy tacos. Desserts: Tres Leches—a cake made with three kinds of milk, churros, a type of fried dough found in the cuisine of the Philipinnes, and fried platanos. Bring your children who can choose from a niñito meals—burritos, tacos, quesadilla, and four alitas (wings). I ordered a chimichanga and drink called Mudden from a stand-up cooler which is represented in its communities, families, and most of all, in its children. To ensure that all children have unlimited opportunities to discover and at-tain their fullest potential in the early years of their educational journey is our fundamental commitment. Enspire Academy was founded in 2018 to serve the rich, cultural and ethnic diversity of St. Paul’s East Side, which is represented in its communities, families, and most of all, in its children. To ensure that all children have unlimited opportunities to discover and attain their fullest potential in the early years of their educational journey is our fundamental commitment. For more questions, call 651-401-6183 or visit espireacademycharter.com.

Taqueria El Buen Gusto
821 Maryland Ave. East
St. Paul 55106
Phone: 651-756-7288
Hours: 10:00 a.m. – 8:00 p.m., open until 9:30 p.m. on Wednesdays
Facebook: @taqueriaelbuengusto

I had planned to go to this restaurant when the COVID shut down arrived, and I had to wait until recently. So now I can venture out and go inside to add to arti-
ticles on a Taste Trek. I jumped into my car and headed to the northeast corner of Arcade and Maryland. I pulled up behind the restaurant around 6:30 p.m. and was able to find some parking spots behind it. I walked around to the front entrance. Later I found that it would have been eas-
er going through a back entrance. You may remember that the earlier restaurant in the building was Mr. Pete’s, a Chicago burgers and hot dogs restau-
rant in the building was Mr. Pete’s, a Chicago burgers and hot dogs restau-

Thanks to the donations from readers like you, we have been able to keep the paper up and running. Soft Latinix music was playing, and one sign said masks were required but most people weren’t wearing them. People order at a counter with an illumi-
nated menu that is on the wall above. Some of them are in smallish lettering and may be hard for some people to eas-
ily read. They said the food would be brought to your table. There was a line at the counter and most folks were taking their choices home. But the tables showed that this was a family friendly place with lots of kids when I was there. So here are some of the offerings from the menu. Not everything, but some exam-

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 from readers like you, we have been able to keep the paper up and running. If you value this community source of information, please consider filling out the form below. Any amount is appreciated; you may also make memorial donations, or include the Fo-
rum in your legacy planning.

The school offers tutoring, small group instruction, personalized learning, and a rigorous child-centered curriculum. Empire Academy was founded in 2018 to celebrate and serve the rich, cultural and ethnic diversity of St. Paul’s East Side, which is represented in its communities, families, and most of all, in its chil-
dren. To ensure that all children have unlimited opportunities to discover and at-tain their fullest potential in the early years of their educational journey is our fundamental commitment. For more questions, call 651-401-6183 or visit espireacademycharter.com.