

# Dayton's Bluff District Forum

Volume 40, No. 4

May 2026

"The Voice of the Community"

## Art Festival by Community Artists

Benjamin Mason

If you've ever wondered where Art in the Hollow comes from, it has sprouted very organically from the community of Swede Hollow and the greater Dayton's Bluff area. It grew from a humble (but ambitious!) senior class project at Twin Cities Academy High School in 2010, and was nurtured by the Friends of Swede Hollow neighborhood organization. From there, the festival has been passed on to artists who live and work right here in the East Side.

Festival organizers gather throughout the year in neighborhood spots to move the event planning along and toss around new ideas. Most have been recruited

onto the team after being participating artists themselves. They meet at Sweet Hollow Cafe, St. Paul Brewing, Roots Cafe, or Art @967 Payne (among many other establishments). Everyone is invested in the neighborhood, and everyone is invested in making the festival accessible and friendly to our artists and visitors.

If you are an East Sider, an artist, or another enthusiast who has wondered if you can get involved in Art in the Hollow as a participant, planner, or a volunteer, the answer is "yes!" Visit the Art in the Hollow website and reach out to join up!

**Art in the Hollow will be held in Swede Hollow Park, 720 Payne Ave, St Paul, on Saturday, June 6, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.**



## Annual Plant Sale to Be Held May 16

Ramsey County Master Gardeners

Ramsey County Master Gardeners are hosting their annual plant sale on Saturday, May 16, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Aldrich Arena, 1850 White Bear Ave, Maplewood.

The sale includes a large selection of native plants, vegetables, favorite and

unique varieties of tomatoes, herbs, annual and perennial flowers, houseplants, quality garden gloves, and other great items to get your garden growing strong. Funds raised support the University of Minnesota Extension Garden Education Volunteer Program of Ramsey County, including community gardening and youth education.

Cash, checks and credit cards accepted.

For more information, RamseyMasterGardeners.org/plantsale



## Construction Season Has Started in St. Paul

City of St. Paul

Public Works has a new permit process requiring construction work zones to post signs identifying who is doing the work, contact information, and when the work should be completed. This should provide the public with who to reach out to with questions or issues about a construction project in their neighborhood.

Learn about Public Works' current and upcoming construction projects at [stpaul.gov/construction](http://stpaul.gov/construction).

Plan your route accordingly using the Road Closure map at [stpaul.gov/roadclosure](http://stpaul.gov/roadclosure).



**We are Printing our June Issue!**

We are printing what could be our last-ever newspaper in June. Take out an ad or donate so that we can continue to publish future issues. **Content deadline: May 10.**

We are also in need of writers and content — submit your articles, poems, life stories, press releases, or photos to: [daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com).

## Help Your Garden Bloom with Free Ramsey County Resources

Ramsey County

Whether you have a seasoned green thumb or are new to gardening, Ramsey County offers resources and programs to support. This spring, improve soil health with free compost, swap gently used garden tools and get free gardening advice from Extension Garden Education Volunteers.

### Pick up free compost on Saturday, May 2

A healthy garden starts with healthy soil. On Saturday, May 2, pick up free compost made from food scraps at the Ramsey County Environmental Center. Compost is a nutrient-rich soil amendment made from food scraps and yard waste that helps improve soil health, conserves water and promotes plant growth among many other benefits. The compost used at this event is locally sourced. Residents who pre-ordered a backyard compost bin or rain barrel from the Recycling Association of Minnesota can pick up their order at this event.

### Swap garden tools in May

Garden tools can be expensive. Instead of buying new tools for a project this spring, visit the Garden Tool Swap! Ramsey County residents can swap gently used garden tools for free at the Ramsey County Environmental Center this May. The event runs every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Saturdays May 9 and May 16 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Items must be clean and dry, with no dirt, roots, or vegetation, and in good working condition with no cracks or chips in pots. All items must be transportable by one person. Residents can donate items such as ceramic pots, tomato cages and rakes.

Any tools remaining at the end of the swap will be distributed to Ramsey County yard waste sites and Urban Roots.

### Get free, local gardening advice

Need to troubleshoot an issue with a plant? Want advice from a local expert? Call the Ramsey County Garden Education Volunteer program line at 612-301-7590 with gardening questions. Garden Education Volunteers also host online and in-person events year-round to share horticulture knowledge and skills.



Find out what Ramsey County is doing for the environment and get tips to go green yourself in our e-newsletter, *Green Ramsey*.

## Events Happening at Saint Paul Eagles Club #33

Stephanie Harr

**Saturday, May 16** — Live music with Swing Dancing at the Eagles! Steve Clarke and the Working Stiffs will perform at 7 p.m., and there will be beginner lessons at 6 p.m. (\$10 cover)

**Thursday, May 21** — Church of the Pub Genius trivia night with Bob Parker at 7:30 p.m. (free)

**Saturday May 30** — Eagles Prom! Dust off your old prom duds, or find a vintage/thrift shop with some snazzy get-ups, and join your neighbors and friends for a night you'll never forget. We'll have a live DJ, fabulous decorations, a photo booth, dancing, and a full bar. At 7 p.m., (\$10 in advance or \$15 at the door)

**Saturday, June 6** — The Get-up Mondays perform their brand of original Rocky-tonk-america-grass music at 7 p.m., (no cover)

**Friday June 19** — Special edition Back to the 50s Karaoke night! At 7 p.m. (no cover)

**Every Wednesday** — Steak night: Steak dinner (\$10) or \$5 burgers and live music at 6-8 p.m.

**Every Friday** — Karaoke at 7:30 p.m. (free)

**Saint Paul Eagles Club #33**  
287 Maria Avenue, Saint Paul

**Open Tuesday – Friday at 5:30 p.m.,**  
**Saturday and Sunday at noon.**

[Eagles33.com](http://Eagles33.com)



## Friends of Swede Hollow Making a Difference on the East Side for Over 50 Years

Join us on **May 11 at 6 p.m. at the Eagles Club, 287 Maria Ave.** Our group would like to thank the *Dayton's Bluff District Forum* for many years of supporting our efforts and for joining us in bringing the community together. Through the selflessness of your members and fierce pride you have for the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood and the East Side of St. Paul, you have kept us connected to our past, the present, and each other.

## Dayton's Bluff District Forum

### Subscribe to the *Forum*.

Interested in keeping up with hot news? Send your email address to [daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com) and request to subscribe to the *Forum* every month.

## Friends of Swede Hollow

If you have a passion for history and preserving nature, please join us for our monthly meeting on the third Tuesday of every month.

For the most accurate information on the next meeting, email Michel or follow us on Facebook.

Meetings are an excellent resource for park updates and events. For more updates email [taylor672@comcast.net](mailto:taylor672@comcast.net) or call Michel at 651-442-3366.

## 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 1 at 11 a.m.**

If you'd like to attend, email [daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com) for more information.

We are currently meeting at the Dayton's Bluff Library.

## Need Groceries?

If you are 60 or older, you may be eligible to receive a box of nutritious food every month from Second Harvest.

This box is part of a program called NAPS, and we can help you apply!

Give us a call at 651-683-2326, and someone will assist you with your application.

Help the Metropolitan Area Agency on Aging provide one-on-one counseling to Medicare beneficiaries at community partner sites.

Make a difference in your community by becoming a State Health Insurance Assistance Program certified Medicare Counselor. Help people understand their Medicare options.

Visit [Metroaging.org/volunteer](http://Metroaging.org/volunteer).

## 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. Police meetings are held at **9 a.m. and 6 p.m.** on the third Tuesday of each month. Bring your neighbors!

Call Robyn Brewin at 651-266-5580 or email [RobynBrewin@StPaul.gov](mailto:RobynBrewin@StPaul.gov) to ensure the meetings have not been canceled.

## New National Suicide Prevention Hotline Number

988 has been designated as the new three-digit dialing code that will route callers to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline. Text or Dial. 988 was recently launched as an alternative to calling 911.

## Xcel Phone Numbers

Gas Leak: 800-895-2999. Power Outage: 800-895-1999.

Call 811 before you dig: Before starting that roto-tiller or heaving that shovel into the ground for *anything*, call 811.

At no charge, Xcel will have a trained technician check the area on your property or on the boulevard to make sure there are no wires, pipes, or other hidden surprises in the designated digging area.

Usually, someone checks within a day, marking the 'no-dig' area with painted lines, and everyone is safe!



## Dayton's Bluff Community Council Board of Directors Meeting

The Dayton's Bluff Community Council is inviting everyone to attend the meeting on **Monday, May 18 from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** at the East Side Enterprise Center at 804 Margaret Street.

Come meet your neighbors, share your ideas, hear from others, and elect board members. Your voice matters!

Welcome address from the Board President, remarks from other local officials, and open discussion with your neighbors and board members are on the schedule. Looking forward to seeing you and serving your neighborhood needs. All are welcome.

## Free Legal Services for Low-Income People

Call Southern Minnesota Regional Legal Services at 1-888-575-2954 or go to [smrls.org](http://smrls.org) to see if you qualify for free legal assistance with: family law, government benefits, housing, education, seniors, and more. You can also call if you're behind on your bills, having problems with credit or creditors, or have other civil legal issues, etc. If an interpreter is needed, SMRLS will provide one.

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



THE HISTORIC  
MOUNDS  
THEATRE

Visit [moundstheatre.org](http://moundstheatre.org) for more information and to purchase tickets.

The Historic Mounds Theatre is located at 1029 Hudson Road, St. Paul, MN

55106; 651-772-2253;  
[historicismoundstheatre@gmail.com](mailto:historicismoundstheatre@gmail.com).

## Chess Club

Come join us at Karibu Grocery and Deli, located at 719 Payne Ave. in St. Paul for a weekly game of chess. All levels are welcome. We play every **Wednesday from 6-9 p.m.**



## Apply for Homestead Classification Online

Ramsey County's new online homestead application portal is now open. Property owners can easily apply for homestead classification through the county's Smart-File system at [RamseyCountyMN.gov/homestead](http://RamseyCountyMN.gov/homestead).

Homestead classification may provide a property tax reduction for residents who own and occupy their home as their primary residence. Applicants can create an account to complete the online application, upload required documents, and receive updates about their submission.

Residents should be prepared to provide proof of ownership and occupancy as part of the process. Processing times may vary based on application volume.

For questions or assistance, contact the Assessor's Office at 651-266-2040 or [askhomesteads@ramseycounty.us](mailto:askhomesteads@ramseycounty.us).



# Grow Something New with Saint Paul Public Library's Seed Libraries

Dayton's Bluff Library

Did you know that Saint Paul Public Library (SPPL) offers free seeds to help you grow your own garden? The East Side Seed Library — located at Dayton's Bluff Library — provides community members with the opportunity to cultivate fresh food, explore gardening, and contribute to a greener city. The collaboration between SPPL, Metro State Uni-

versity Library and Learning Center, and Urban Roots follows a "Borrow, Grow, Share" model to encourage sustainable gardening practices.

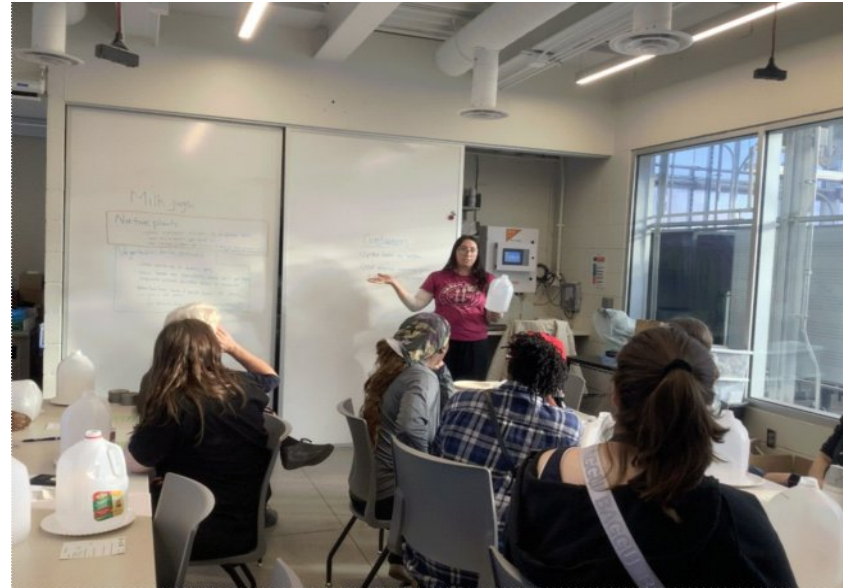
How it works:

✓ Borrow – Take up to five seed packets and an information sheet. Check out at the desk.

✓ Grow – Plant at home and use gardening books from the library to guide you.

✓ Share – Harvest your produce, share with your community, and tell us about your gardening journey!

Learn more about the East Side Seed Library and find resources on gardening at [libguides.metrostate.edu/EastSideSeedLibrary](http://libguides.metrostate.edu/EastSideSeedLibrary). Find more seed libraries at Sun Ray and Riverview libraries.



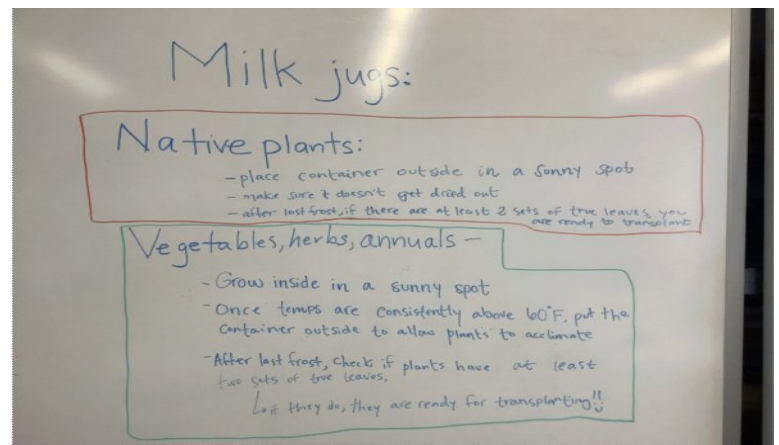
Spring Fever is in the air. On Wednesday March 25, Dayton's Bluff's (DB) and Metro State's joint Seed Sowing event was maxed out. Led by Urban Roots, participants were able to start their seed beds and even got to take home baby spider plants from the mama plants in DB's children's area.

## Lowertown Sounds Summer Concert Lineup

Thanks to our sponsors, especially our presenting sponsor @affinity\_plus, and of course you, for the loyal support, we're bringing the best of Minnesota's music scene back to Mears Park for another summer of free, outdoor concerts. Your Thursday nights in St. Paul are officially booked!



Fun meeting neighbors and starting summer gardens from seeds. From Dayton's Bluff's and Metro State's joint Seed Sowing event.



Tips for growing plants from seeds in milk jugs. From Dayton's Bluff's and Metro State's joint Seed Sowing event.

**DONATE TODAY**

## Dayton's Bluff District Forum

1368 Minnehaha Ave. E., St. Paul, MN 55106  
E-mail: [daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com)

While we are not currently printing, the paper is always available online at [daytonsbluffdistrictforum.org](http://daytonsbluffdistrictforum.org). This publication of Hopewell Communications, Inc., 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 [daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com](mailto:daytonsbluffdistrictforum@gmail.com), or mailed to the address above. The Dayton's Bluff District Forum is delivered to businesses in the Dayton's Bluff neighborhood when the budget permits. To find out where you can pick up a printed issue, send an email to the address above.

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

Editor/layout: Allison Lund-Zalewski; Editorial Associate: Mark Gallagher

Staff: Mandy Okonek, Jessy Rehmann

Next issue: **June. Deadline for content May 10.**

United Women in Faith

Mounds Park United Methodist Church  
1049 Euclid Street  
St Paul 55106

**Friday, May 29**  
(3pm to 7pm)

**Saturday, May 30**  
(10am to 3pm)

**Sunday Worship**  
10:30am

Sunday services live-streamed on our YouTube channel (search: Mounds Park UMC)  
**651-774-8736**

**Church Rummage & Bake Sale**

Mounds Park United Methodist Church  
Sharing the love of Christ with our community • [moundsparkumc.org](http://moundsparkumc.org)

### Senator Foug Hawj Celebrates Repeal of Crossbow Hunting Sunset

Eden Telle

Senator Foug Hawj voted to pass SF 1251, which will increase accessibility to hunting for Minnesotans of all ages and abilities by repealing a sunset on crossbow hunting. Led by chief author Senator Susan Pha (DFL-Brooklyn Park), the Senate unanimously voted in favor of the bill.

Senator Hawj releases the following statement: "Crossbow hunting is a proven, effective way to include more hunters in Minnesota's bow season. They are reliable tools that offer ease of access to younger and newer hunters who may struggle with compound bows, and they increase the odds of successfully harvesting an animal instead of wounding it. This bill is a responsible and inclusive addition to our state's hunting and sound wildlife management. Ensuring that crossbows are allowable moving forward will help all people enjoy the outdoors and take part in this treasured Minnesotan tradition."

The 2023 Omnibus Environment bill included a provision to allow crossbow hunting in the state until June 30, 2025, which was extended to 2026 in last year's legislative session. The extension allowed the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) to prepare a report on any impacts they observed from crossbow hunting. The report found no evidence that the expansion of crossbow use during archery season had impacts on deer and turkey populations thus far. The report also found that expanded crossbow use may positively affect recruitment and retention of new, mostly younger, hunters.



### Grand Old Day Set for June 7

Grand Old Day Facebook Page

Get ready to kick off summer in style at the biggest free celebration in the Midwest — Grand Old Day 2026!

For over 50 years, Grand Old Day has been a beloved St. Paul tradition led by a dedicated group of local volunteers. Join us on June 7 for a day filled with excitement, entertainment, and endless fun for the whole family!

Stay updated on all the latest news and announcements by following us on Facebook and Instagram @grandoldday.

For more information about sponsoring or becoming involved, visit grandave.com/events/grandoldday.

#### Calling all young entrepreneurs!

Grand Old Day is excited to announce the NEW Kids Market hosted in the Future Innovators Zone! Kids can sell almost anything — handmade items, store-bought goods, games, or services. If your child is five-17 years old and would like to participate in the Grand Old Day Kids Market, sign up now at kidsmarkets.com/markets/st-paul.

#### Calling all pet lovers!

After the tail-wagging success of last year's wiener dog races, Grand Old Day is going even bigger!

We're introducing a new dedicated area for pet people packed with more experiences, more fun, and a curated Pet Mart!

If you were part of Paws on Grand, we'd love to have you back. This is your chance to connect with thousands of pet-loving attendees and showcase your products and services in what we hope to be a high-energy, highly engaged space.

Spots are filling up fast, don't miss out! Sign up today: jotform.com/app/260145405903147.

#### Lace up and let's hit the pavement for the Grand Old Day 5K Fun Run!

It's the ultimate way to kick off summer in style! Secure your spot now and snag a race t-shirt while you're at it!

Participants of all ages are welcome! Register now raceroster.com/.../2026/111711/grand-old-day-fun-run.

#### Don't miss your chance to be part of Grand Old Day

Apply now for a vendor space or a spot in the parade! Visit grandave.com/grand-old-day for details. All Grand Old Day applications for all vendor, artisan booths, and parade entries are OPEN! Grand Old Day draws 200,000 people from the #TwinCities Metro area and the region. The event is held along Saint Paul's premier shopping, dining, and entertainment district on Grand Avenue. Submit your application at jotform.com/app/260145405903147.

### Friends of the Forum 2026

Make a donation today!

John Vaughn

Sofia Santana

Richard and Georgette Kleinbaum

Diane May

Kristenza Nelson

Kathy Sidles

Samuel Carey

Stephen Wunrow

SUMMER CAMPS & CLASSES advertisement with images of children and a 'REGISTER NOW' button.

LIKE US ON facebook logo

### 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 \$1,000 to produce per month. We have found a new printer and have adjusted the cost to print each 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 Forum in your legacy planning. If you have been our Friend in the past, please consider making a tax-deductible donation in 2026. Our goal for 2026 is \$2,500; will you help us reach our goal?

Yes, I will become a Friend of the Forum. My tax-deductible check is enclosed, for:

\$100 \$50 \$25 Another amount \_\_\_\_\_
Or give online: govemn.org/organization/Hopewell-Communications-Incorporated

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_
Address \_\_\_\_\_ City, State, ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to: Dayton's Bluff District Forum and mail to 1368 Minnehaha Ave. E., St. Paul, MN 55106. For more information, daytonsbuffdistrictforum@gmail.com.

Thank you for your support!

Read our paper online at daytonsbuffdistrictforum.org