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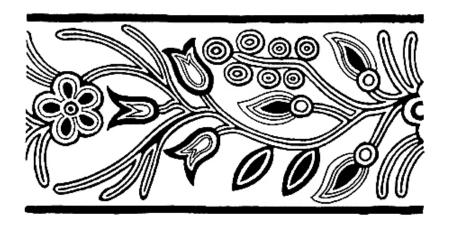


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Land Acknowledgement

History Theatre sits on the ancestral, traditional and contemporary land of the Dakota people, for whom the land holds historical, spiritual, and political significance. We recognize and honor the Dakota people, ancestors, and descendants, as well as the land itself, and all the sovereign Native nations in Minnesota and beyond. We recognize that this acknowledgement itself is not enough, and only serves as a first step towards decolonization.



FROM THE ARTISTIC DIRECTOR

Welcome to the History Theatre,

I am honored and humbled to have been chosen to lead History Theatre into its next chapter by building on the theatre's legacy of success to continue to make it a vital and celebrated part of the lives of the people of Minnesota.

I am looking forward to working together with Managing Director Karen Mueller to see the rest of the current season through and begin planning for next season. History Theatre's mission speaks directly to my heart. I appreciate the company's passion for bringing historical events and iconic figures to life in ways that touch our hearts and move us to action. History at its essence is about our shared stories, ideas, hopes and dreams and creating theatre that draws on our collective past allows us to reflect our world and illuminate our present in ways that enlighten, educate, and entertain our audiences.

I have been part of the History Theatre community for many years and directed productions including *The Meeting* (1991-92), *The Brotherhood* (1995-96), *Summer in the Shadows* (2001-02), *Joe* (2003-04), *Nellie* (2012-13), and just last season *Not in our Neighborhood!* (2021-22). In the time I've been associated with History Theatre, I've truly come to treasure the amazing work and the spectacular community of theatre professionals who have built and sustained it. I look forward to working in my new role with the talented staff and artists who have worked with History Theatre in the past, as well as engaging new and emerging artists from the theatre community.

Enjoy *The Root Beer Lady* and I hope to see you at the theatre again soon!

Richard D. Thompson



FROM THE MANAGING DIRECTOR

When we first introduced "The Root Beer Lady" to our audiences as a Raw Stages feature, we were in the middle of the pandemic and offering a streaming version of each reading. We were a bit surprised and delighted with the overwhelming interest and reception to this piece. We had no idea how many Minnesotans would resonate with Dorothy Molter's story and can only assume that ties to the Boundary Waters are deep, and that many a solo modern voyageur or family or group of friends had stopped by Dorothy's cabin for respite and a cool root beer on a summer trek. Kim Schultz has brought us this wonderful story of the unique and inspiring life of Dorothy, and we are thrilled to be able to bring it to you on stage.

Please join us for *Diesel Heart* by Brian Grandison based on the autobiography by Melvin Carter Jr. which will open March 11. Melvin's story is full of grit, perseverance, and joy. Overflowing with heart, you won't want to miss it.

Thank you for your ongoing enthusiasm for History Theatre's unique mission! With Rick Thompson as our new Artistic Director we are looking ahead to a wonderful next chapter. Stay tuned!

Karen Mueller

P.S. Mark your calendars for History Theatre's "A Historic Night Out" our upcoming spring benefit on April 15 at the St. Paul Event Center.

Music, great food and memorable auction items will be plentiful!

To make a donation, visit www.HistoryTheatre.com/donate or call the Box Office at 651-292-4323.

Thank you for your support!







FROM THE PLAYWRIGHT & PERFORMER

In late summer 2019, just prior to the devastating pandemic coming our way in 2020, I was invited to Tofte Lake Center, set on pristine land just outside of Ely, as an artist-in-residence. I discovered for the first time the beauty of the Northwoods and the Boundary Waters Canoe Area. Even though originally from Minnesota, I had never made it up to that beautiful area and was immediately entranced with the wonder and tranquility of the BWCA region. I was at Tofte to work on a play with an old friend, when I happened upon a new one. And I was hooked.

Dorothy Molter's story captivated me from the moment it was mentioned to me. I devoured a book about her that I found in the Tofte library written by Bob Carey. And I kept digging, quickly discovering there was much more to Dorothy than root beer. She was an extraordinary woman who, in 1934, shattered the norms of her time by moving unmarried up to an isolated, remote area in the middle of the Northwoods (very close to where I was sitting at that moment), by herself. But then it seems, Dorothy was often alone. Her mother died when she was young, and Dorothy was left in an orphanage for a number of years until her father remarried and was able to reunite the family. But there is certainly a difference between alone and lonely and I think she probably always pushed back on being called the "Loneliest Woman in America," as she was in the *Saturday Evening Post* in 1952. I found her story to be one of independence, determination, generosity, kindness and bravery. And I wanted her to tell it.

I had almost half a solo show script completed by the time I left Tofte, five days later. And in 2021, with live theatre largely shuttered, I sat down at my kitchen table in Chicago, in front of a webcam and told Dorothy's story for a virtual HT audience. My gratitude to Ron Peluso for believing in both Dorothy and me, then and now. It's a joy to return to the History Theatre.

And now here we are - live! So kwitchurbeliakin!

This is the story of a woman who lived ahead of her time and outside of expectations in every way. She refused to live (literally and figuratively) in the place society had reserved for her. She wanted more than what was offered to her and got it. She spent her life protecting the environment and all the creatures in it, realizing before many of us the necessity and privilege of caring for the earth. This story is also told recognizing the rights and privileges a white woman like Dorothy received, where displaced indigenous people never did.

I am proud and grateful to be a part of this female led artistic and design team. I think Dorothy would be pleased. I hope you enjoy this story of the maverick, rule-breaker and root beer maker: Dorothy Molter.

I'm glad you're here.

Kim Schultz



FROM THE DIRECTOR

I spent my childhood summers at Camp Mishawaka paddling around the boundary waters. During the school year, I spent hours pouring over primary source documents at the History Center's library (I was big into Minnesota History Day competitions.) "I've spent my whole life prepping for this play!" I told Ron, Kim, and Rick when they first called to see if I was interested.

What I love about this particular production though is how Kim honors the story of a woman with a calling. Dorothy broke norms. Defied expectations. She felt a deep call to be in nature and she went for it. She's a trailblazer. She's legendary. And, she's not just famous because of the *Saturday Evening Post* article, it's because of the community she created—a friendly chat over a pop bottle in the wilderness had a ripple effect, creating an expansive network of friends, fans, and followers.

May we all learn from her respect for the wilderness, neighborly demeanor, shrewd wit and wacky ways. Cheers to Dorothy's memory and cheers to you for joining us today!

Addie Gorlin-Han

SPECIAL THANKS

Jess Edberg and the Dorothy Molter Museum
Liz Engelman and the Tofte Lake Center
Jonathan Haynes, additional BWCA recordings
Laurie Flanigan Hegge
Sandra Struthers
Chris Gorlin-Han, Gunther Gullickson, Zachary Morgan (voiceover work)
Sarah Guy-Levar
Judy Wolf
Reid Rejsa

THANKS TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Wilderness Inquiry, St. Paul Parks and Recreation, Women's Press, Tofte Lake Center, Ely Outfitting Company, Dorothy Molter Museum, Friends of the Boundary Waters, Dodge Nature Center, Friends of the Mississippi River



Written and performed by Kim Schultz* Directed by Addie Gorlin-Hant

TIME/PLACE

1986. Dorothy Molter's cabin in Isle of Pines, Boundary Waters, Northern Minnesota.

THE CAST

Dorothy Molter Kim Schultz*







^ United Scenic Artists, Local USA 829 of the IATSE is the union representing Scenic, Costume, Lighting, Sound and Projection Designers in Live Performance.

- * denotes a Member of Actors' Equity Association ‡ denotes a Member of the Stage Directors and Choreographers Society, Inc.
- denotes a Member of American Federation of Musicians Local #3073



Land Acknowledgement for The Root Beer Lady

Dorothy Molter's cabin was located on the Isle of Pines, Boundary Waters, Northern Minnesota where Indigenous people have lived for countless generations. Minnesota's Arrowhead region, which includes the Boundary Waters, is within the 1854 Ceded Territory, where Anishinaabe people, also known as Ojibwe, retain hunting, fishing, and gathering rights.

Dorothy Molter in the stern of a canoe filled with packs, Isle of Pines, Knife Lake, Boundary Waters Canoe Area, Minnesota.

ARTISTIC TEAM

Director	Addie Gorlin-Han‡
Stage Manager	Lyndsey R. Harter*
Costume Designer	Sarah Bahr [^]
Scenic Designer	Chelsea M. Warren [^]
Lighting Designer	Chris Johnson
Properties Designer	Abbee Warmboe
Video Designer	Kathy Maxwell
Composer/Sound Designer	Katharine Horowitz
Recorded Music	Joe Cruz
Assistant Director	Jess Yates
Assistant Stage Manager	Gianna Haseman
Associate Video Designer	Leslie Ritenour
Dorothy Molter Consultant	Jess Edberg

PRODUCTION TEAM

Assistant Master Electrician/Light Board Pr Stage Electricians	Noah Davis, Shannon Elliot, Kurt Jung,
Master Carpenter	Zachary Morgan
Carpenters	Brian Hesser, Michael Lee
Apprentice Carpenter	lan losso
Scenic Artists	Jeni Raddatz Tolifson, Erika Soukup
Costume Assistant	Meghan Kent
Open Captioner	Laura Wiebers



John "Cap" Molter, Myrtle Molter, Dorothy Molter, William "Uncle Bill" Molter, and R.E. "Bob' Pyle waiting at Moose Lake for a tow up to the Isle of Pines Resort on Knife Lake. 1930-31.



Please turn off cell phones.





No recording, taping, photography is allowed.

Thank you!

The Cast



KIM SCHULTZ* (she/her)

Dorothy Molter
Originally from Minneapolis, Kim is a
Chicago-based actor, writer, solo show
artist and storyteller. Select theatrical
credits include: A Christmas Carol at
The Goodman Theatre, In the Garden
at Lookingglass Theatre (u/s), No Place

Called Home at The Kennedy Center, Silk Road Rising and 3LD, Yang Zen Froggs at Theatre de la Jeune Lune and King Lear at Ten Thousand Things, The Comedy of Errors at New England Shakespeare and The F Trip at The Zipper Factory. As an improviser and writer, she has worked at The Brave New Workshop, Disney Cruise Line, Chicago Improv Festival, Edinburgh Fringe Festival and on an HBO Comedy Showcase. This is Kim's third solo show. Previous solo work includes The F Trip and No Place Called Home. Kim also authored the memoir, Three Days in Damascus (Palewell Press, 2016) about her experience meeting Iraqi refugees in the Middle East. Her television work includes Sex in the City, Chicago Fire, as well as several national/regional commercials. In addition, Kim is a corporate improvisation trainer and occasionally runs artist residencies in Mexico. www.kimschultz.net

Understudy



JEN MAREN* (she/her)

Understudy
Theater credits include: History
Theatre: (Glensheen, Lord Gordon
Gordon, Solo Show: Live From New
York, He's a Prom Date!); Guthrie
Theater (The Sunshine Boys); Ordway
Theatre: (Beauty and the Beast);

Penumbra Theatre (The Wedding Band), Mixed Blood (Love Person); Old Log Theater (Dixie Swim Club, Leaving Iowa), Illusion Theater (My Antonia); Park Square Theatre (Rock-n-Roll, Panic, 33 Variations); Children's Theater Company (Jackie and Me); NorShor Theatre (Don't Dress for Dinner); Founding member of Theatre Unmasqued; Looney Lutheran Company member; Science Live Theater member. Audible Audiobook narrator. Training: St. Olaf College B.A. Theater Arts; British American Drama Academy, Oxford, England. Keep up with Jen at: www.jenmaren.com IG: @jenact

The Creative Team

ADDIE GORLIN HAN‡ (she/her)

Director

Addie is Associate Producer at the Guthrie as well as a freelance director and K-12 credentialed educator. Recent directing: Into the Woods feat. Hillary Clinton at Arkansas Rep, Kin (UMN/ Guthrie), And Then They Came for Me... Anne Frank (Alabama Shakespeare Festival), The Song of Summer, Charm, and According to Coyote (Mixed Blood Theatre), Strange Heart Beating (Cloudgate Theater-Chicago), Good Person of Szechwan, Eurydice, Twelfth Night, and Streetcar Named Desire (Brown/ Trinity Rep), Next to Normal (Brown), Laramie Project (Children's Theater Company T.A.T.), I and You (Phoenix Theater and Children's Hospital of Minnesota),

and Five Tries (Cutting Ball Theatre). Addie has developed work at Magic Theatre, Actor's Express, The Playwrights Center, The Lark, Mixed Blood, Hudson Stage Company, Riverside Theater, Ivoryton Playhouse, and has served as an assistant/associate AD at The Guthrie, The Public, Trinity Rep, and A.R.T., among others. Education: B.A. Dartmouth College, M.F.A.Directing Brown University/Trinity Rep. addiegorlin.com

JESS YATES (she/they)

Assistant Director

Jess is a Minnesota-based director and teaching artist who invites audiences and collaborators to play with multidimensional perspectives in accessible theatre and new work development. A graduate of the National Theatre Institute's Advanced Directing Program and Macalester College, select credits of her work include: Marie Antoinette (Emerging Professionals Ensemble); Seph (Macalester College); Under the Surface (AATE); Women Supporting Women (Lime Arts Productions) and assisting on Carmela Full of Wishes (Children's Theatre Company). jessyates.com

LYNDSEY R. HARTER* (she/her)

Stage Manager

Lyndsey is happy to be returning to History Theatre after previously stage managing their touring production of neighbors in 2019. She has also collaborated with Guthrie Theater, Minnesota Opera, Theater Latté Da, Theater Mu, Pillsbury House + Theatre, New Dawn Theatre, Playwrights' Center, Park Square Theatre, Collide Theatrical Dance Company, and Great River Shakespeare Festival. Lyndsey is a proud member of Actors' Equity Association and serves on Equity's Twin Cities Liaison Committee. Up next: Born with Teeth at Guthrie Theater.

GIANNA HASEMAN (she/her)

Assistant Stage Manager

Gianna is excited to make her History Theatre debut working on *The Root Beer Lady*. She has also collaborated with Pillsbury House + Theater, Twin Cities Theater Camp, and The University of Minnesota Twin Cities Theater Arts + Dance Department. Gianna recently graduated from the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and Theatre Arts.

CHELSEA M. WARREN^ (she/her)

Scenic Designer

Chelsea is a multimedia artist with a focus on scenic & puppet design, as well as large scale photography & art installations. Having grown up in the Adirondack Mountains, Chelsea is drawn to robust, elemental stage pictures and is passionate about the natural world. As a scenic designer she has worked at companies including Steppenwolf, Steep Theatre, Penumbra Theatre, Ananya Dance Theatre, Jungle Theater, Victory Gardens, Studio Theatre, Philadelphia Theatre Company and Cleveland Play House. As a puppet designer she has worked at Chicago Shakespeare Theatre, Studio Theatre, Jungle Theater, Water Tower Theatre and Skokie Valley Symphony Orchestra. She was the recipient of a Michael Maggio Emerging Designer Award. Ms. Warren received her MFA from Northwestern University and is an Assistant Professor of Scenic Design at the University of Minnesota Twin Cities. chelseamwarren.com

BIOS continued, page 14

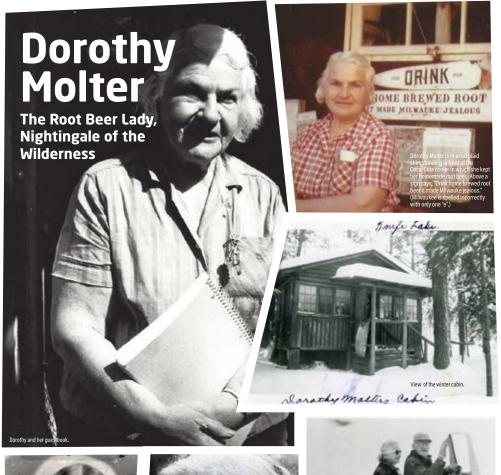






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From the Dorothy Molter Museum

estled in a quiet grove of pines, just outside of Ely, Minnesota, are the cabins and museum of one of the north wood's dearest and most colorful individuals, Dorothy Molter. Some remember her fondly as the "Root Beer Lady" while others recall her as the "Nightingale of the Wilderness" or, simply, Dorothy.

Dorothy carved out her legacy in the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness (BWCAW) located within the Superior National Forest. Dorothy lived on the Isle of Pines on Knife Lake for more than 56 years where she paddled, hiked, fished, skied and snowshoed this pristine area, until her death in 1986. She was visited by as many as 7,000 people a year.

Dorothy was a model of independent thinking, and her story encourages us to think for ourselves. Today, we can look back at how the sociopolitical history of America during Dorothy's lifetime influenced and challenged Dorothy's own path in life and imagine her as a person, rather simply an historic figure.

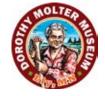
The transition from the Victorian Era at the turn of the 20th century, women's suffrage, two world wars, and women's employment were only a few of the profound points of reference on Dorothy's timeline – no doubt significantly affecting her as a woman living through those changing times. She once said, "If I can ever find a man who can portage heavier loads, chop more wood, or catch more fish, then I'll marry him."

To learn more about Dorothy, view photos and more, visit rootbeerlady.com

COMMUNITY PARTNERS







Dorothy Molter Museum rootbeerlady.com



Tofte Lake Center toftelake.org



Saint Paul Parks and Recreation stpaul.gov/departments/ parks-and-recreation



DOROTHY MOLTER TRIVIA

Trivia answers on page 19.

- 1) When did Dorothy first visit what would become the Boundary Waters? How old was she?
- 2) What was the name of the group who canoed and snowmobiled supplies to Dorothy for decades?

- 3) What foods did Dorothy serve visitors?
- 4) How much did the Forest Service offer to Dorothy for Isle of Pines in 1949?
- 5) After her death, Dorothy's cabins were dismantled and moved to where? How were the disassembled cabins transported?



6) Why was the Isle of Pines Resort forced to shut down?



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Ely Outfitting Company elyoutfittingcompany.com



Friends of the Mississippi River fmr.org

WOMEN'S PRESS

Women's Press womenspress.com



View more BWCA photos and memories, visit bit.ly/dorothyphotos or scan QR code.







FROM THE EDUCATION MANAGER

What a wonderful way to start the new year off: sitting together, cozy in the company of fellow theatre-goers, listening to the extraordinary stories of one amazing Minnesotan woman. We're delighted to have you here.

The majority of what we do in the education department is directly relevant to what you are seeing tonight. We gather with everyday people in the community and share the stories of our lives with each other. One of the finest ways to stay connected in our busy lives is by inviting others into our world and participating in theirs.

At Minnesota Independence College and Community (MICC), we'll be extending our program that works with young adults who are neurodiverse this winter. The success of our partnership has increased demand, so we will be sending one of our amazing teams of teaching artists from History Theatre to MICC to assist students in learning about and documenting their own personal histories. As a culminating activity, the group will present some of their favorite pieces with a live audience, essentially writing and performing a piece of theater from scratch.

We are also proud to continue our longstanding partnership with Vail Place this winter. We look forward to once again taking the journey of personal storytelling with members at the Uptown and Hopkins clubhouses. Perhaps nowhere else do we see such vulnerability, courage, and humor as we do here. We can't wait to show off their work to you and the public in May. More information will be provided, but in the meanwhile, feel free to contact me at pdecordova@historytheatre.com.

Finally, our *Living Through History* class enters its fourth year online. Since May 2020 we have been developing a group of History Theatre patrons interested in the act of writing out the stories of what it means to live through significant events, whether they be personal or global in scope. We would love to have you join a class if this sounds like something you would be interested in. Visit the website or send me a message.

I hope you enjoy the show, and I hope it offers you a chance to reflect on your own

beautiful journey.

Paul de Cordova



BIOS continued from page 8

KATHY MAXWELL (she/her)

Video Designer

Kathy has designed video and lights for several Twin Cities' arts organizations including Penumbra Theatre, Mixed Blood Theatre, Open Eye Figure Theatre, Children's Theatre Company, History Theatre, the Ordway and the Guthrie Theatre. Recent design credits: This Bitter Earth, Benevolence, Mamma Mial and Ride the Cyclone. She received her M.F.A in theatrical design from The University of Minnesota and her B.A. in theatre and dance from the University of Texas.

LESLIE RITENOUR (she/her)

Associate Video Designer

Leslie is a recent UMN alumni from the small town of Colfax, WI. During her time at the University she was involved as an actor in UMTAD's 2021 Men on Boats and was the video designer for UMTAD's 2021 She Kills Monsters. Since then she has worked as a video assistant for the show Airness at Park Square Theatre and designed video for UMTAD's 2022 show of Silent Sky. Leslie is excited to make her post-college return to theatre as a Video Assistant for the History Theatre's The Root Beer Lady.

ABBEE WARMBOE (she/her)

Properties Designer

Abbee is a freelance props designer based in Minneapolis. Previous work at History Theatre includes Runestone! A Rock Musical, Parks: Portrait of a Young Artist, Gloria: A Life, Lord Gordon Gordon, The Highwaymen, The Paper Dreams of Harry Chin, among others. Other recent work includes Theater Latte Da: Hello Dolly!, Christmas at the Local, Merrily We Roll Along; Pillsbury House Theatre: Bull-Jean Stories, What to Send Up; Guthrie Theater: The Little Prince, Emma, Sweat, Vietgone; among others. Abbee was a 2020-21 McKnight Theater Artist Fellow at the Playwrights' Center.

CHRIS JOHNSON (she/her)

Lighting Designer

Chris has worked as a professional scenery and lighting designer for over 40 years in both Europe and the United States. She started her collaboration with History Theatre with Down to Earth in 1983. She has designed numerous



shows since then including Beyond the Rainbow, Mesabi Red, Buddy - The Buddy Holly Story, and Lombardi. As always, she is honored to be working here at History Theatre and wishes to thank the entire staff for their support.

KATHARINE HOROWITZ (she/her)

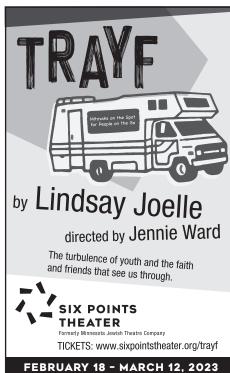
Composer/Sound Designer

Katharine previously designed sound for the 2021 iteration of The Root Beer Lady, as well as Superman Becomes Lois Lane, Stewardess!, A Crack In The Sky, and The Paper Dreams of Harry Chin. She has designed critically-acclaimed and award-winning shows for the Guthrie Theater, Creede Repertory Theatre, The Jungle Theater, Theatre Mu, Mixed Blood Theatre, Pillsbury House Theatre, Park Square Theatre, Great River Shakespeare Festival, Second City Theatricals, Wellfleet Harbor Actors Theatre, and many others. Katharine is a professional member of the Theatrical Sound Designers and Composers Association, and a 2017 McKnight Theatre Artist Fellow at the Playwrights' Center. www.katsound.com

SARAH BAHR[^] (she/her)

Costume Designer

Sarah is a Twin Cities based freelance Costume and Scenic Designer for theater, opera, and dance. Her work has been featured with companies including the Jungle Theater, Ten Thousand Things Theater, Trademark Theater, Guthrie Theater, Theater Mu, Theater Latte Da, Penumbra Theater, History Theater, Minnesota Opera, and Vail Dance Festival. Sarah teaches design courses at various universities and advocates for meaningful opportunities for emerging theater artists. She is also an advocate for equity, diversity, and inclusion among designers and technicians in the performing arts industry. She holds a Design and Technical Theatre MFA from the University of Minnesota, a Studio Art MA from New York University, and a Design and Technical Theatre BFA from University of Minnesota Duluth. Sarah is a United Scenic Artist Local 829 Union Member. sarahbahr.com @sarahbahrdesign



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DOROTHY MOLTER TRIVIA from page 11

1. 1930. She was 23.

2. Dorothy's Angels

Sue Zuidema and Jack Jenkins

3. Hot soup, cold root beer **4.** \$3,000

5. Ely, Minn. Dogsleds and snowmobiles (special permission was granted to use motorized vehicles due to an unseasonably warm March stalled efforts to move the cabins.

6. The Wilderness Act of 1964 created 9 million acres of federal lands, including the Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Dorothy continued using the Summer Tent as her root beer base camp.

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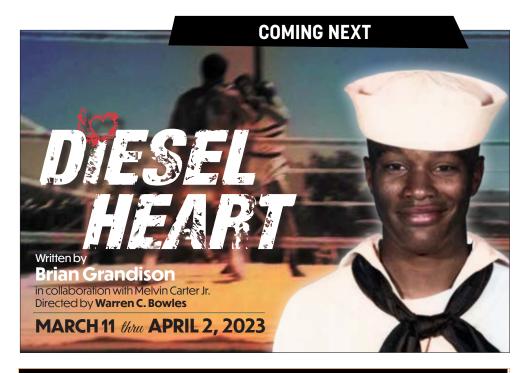


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