

after-school class — will allow students to take an hour long.

Minnesota still tugs at Keillor's heartstrings

Living away 'not right,' yet life is 'pretty slick'

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) — A magazine describes Garrison Keillor as homesick and quotes him as saying it's "not right" that he's living outside his home state of Minnesota.

"Every time I come back (to Minnesota), I feel this twinge that my life took a wrong turn," Keillor told Mpls.St. Paul magazine in its January 1991 issue. "This is not tragic. I'm a very lucky person. But Minnesota is my home and I don't live here ... and this is not right."

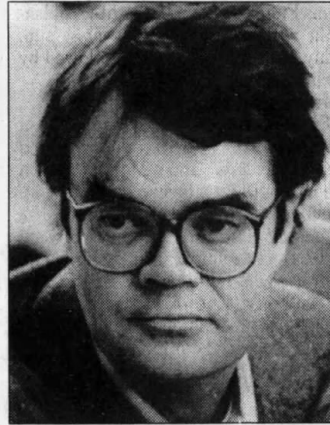
The writer and radio show host left Minnesota in 1987 after quitting his former radio show, "A Prairie Home Companion." Keillor married Ulla Skaerved, a Danish woman whom he met in high school, and they moved to New York City, where Keillor hosts a new live radio show, "Garrison Keillor's American Radio Company."

"I can go live in New York, the same way that a person can go into the Army, but it's not my choice," Keillor told the magazine. "This (Minnesota) is my home. This is where everybody I care about lives. It's where people talk like me and feel the same way that I do."

The magazine said Keillor longs to be in Minnesota.

But Keillor, author of the best-selling 1985 book "Lake Wobegon Days," is quoted in the story as saying, "I'm not sitting out here in New York hurting. I did that in '88. At the moment, life seems pretty slick."

Keillor said he left Minnesota because local media published stories that he considered malicious. Besides



Garrison Keillor
Media drove him away

stories about the breakup of his relationship with Margaret Moos, producer of "A Prairie Home Companion," Keillor objected to a story announcing that he bought a house in St. Paul. The Dec. 27, 1985, story in the St. Paul Pioneer Press Dispatch contained a picture of the house, its address and how much it cost.

Keillor wrote letters to the editor and spoke out on television against the stories.

He once was quoted as saying, "I live in a town in which I'm one of the few personalities. The governor lives here, and there's the mayor, who's got a beard, and there's the local weather guy. And, you know, we're all they've got."

Deborah Howell, former editor of the St. Paul newspaper, repeatedly has said she regrets that the story about Keillor's house appeared on page one. But she has defended the paper's coverage of Keillor and his radio show, saying he was portrayed favorably most of the time and that there was no ill will against him.

Keillor told the magazine that his public feud with the media "made matters worse, I'm sure."

"It seemed to me that a person could not live in St. Paul and survive with such intense malevolent interest on the part of the newspaper," he said.

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Bair charged with First Bank fraud