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## Reliable 'Companion'

## 6 THINGS TO LOOK FOR WHEN GARRISON KEILLOR PERFORMS THURSDAY AT DPAC

By Ed Condran

Garrison Keillor's fans would be woebegone without the soothing baritone voice of "A Prairie Home Companion," the Minnesota Public Radio show broadcast nationally on NPR. But it doesn't look like Keillor his given name is actually "Gary" - is going to give them the chance to miss him. The longtime radio show host, who will perform Thursday at the **Durham Performing Arts** 

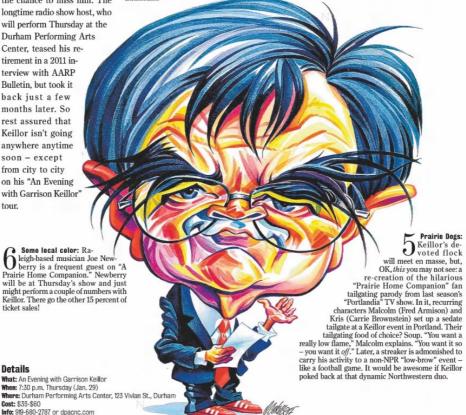
Center, teased his retirement in a 2011 interview with AARP Bulletin, but took it back just a few months later. So rest assured that Keillor isn't going anywhere anytime soon - except from city to city on his "An Evening with Garrison Keillor

tour.

Lutheran tales: Lutherans are a favorite Keillor muse, so you'll cer-tainly be hit with a fair share of stories and jokes with re and jokes with re-pressed Lutherans at the punchline. If you've listened to "Prairie Home Com-panion," you know the drill: "Even Cath-olics up here are Lutherans." Ah, the suffering: Your head will swim with visions of endless Midwest winters and perhaps some stories about bologna sand-wiches. (Hey! Since when does delicious bologna equal suffering?!)

Gat people, beware: If Keillor reprises his well-known theory about felines – "Cats are intended to teach us that not everything in nature has a purpose" – there may be some harrumphing from cat lovers in the audience. We'll defer to the great American humorist Mark Twain on this one: "When a man loves cats, I am his friend and commede without (in the introduction." and comrade, without further introduction.

Aging white folks: Let's face it, it'll be an NPR kind of crowd. Keillor's core audience is comprised of boomers with low hip quotients but a high percentage of hip replacements. They'll certainly turn out for their man (as we hit press almost a week before the show, 85 percent of the weak ways seld!)



Details

Cost: \$35-\$60