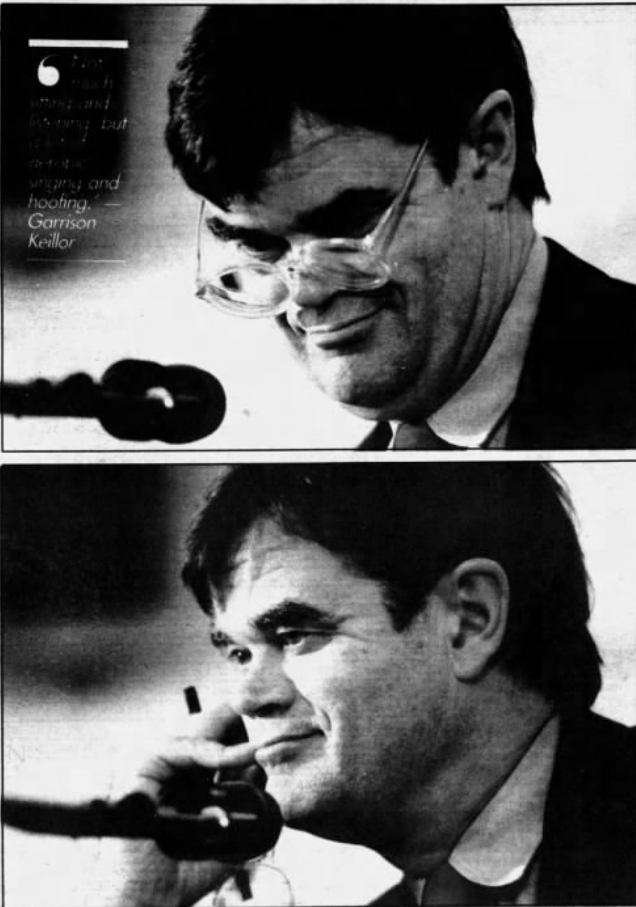


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*Not much sitting and listening, but a lot of aerobic singing and hoofing. — Garrison Keillor*

### Keillor leads singing, dancing

For nearly 14 years, five o'clock on Saturday was "Prairie Home Companion" time. By its final broadcast in 1987, the show was heard by 5 million people across the country and Australia. When its creator and host, Garrison Keillor, announced the show's end, there wasn't a dry eye in the house.

On March 22-23 Keillor begins a new tradition: A Prairie Home Festival of Hymn Singing and Dance on the campus of Concordia College in Moorhead, Minn. Beginning at 7 p.m. Friday and concluding with a grand finale Saturday night, the Prairie Home Festival will be a full-participation event.

"Not much sitting and listening, but a lot of aerobic singing and hoofing," says Keillor, who will provide commentary and storytelling.

Workshops on hymns will range from Lutheran standards and Christmas carols to Baptist and Methodist favorites and Bible camp songs. Dance instructors will teach the polka, schottisch, waltz, American square and contra dance, Scandinavian folk and social dancing, swing and the Lindy, all to live music.

"We chose the month of March because it's a month in need of festivity, the month God designed to show people who don't drink what a hangover is like," Keillor says. "Everyone is invited who is not afraid of hymnals or opposed to public dancing."

The "Prairie Home Companion" was a folk show and the festival is a true folk festival, Keillor says.

"I've looked for a way to perpetuate the spirit of that show — some happy way of rediscovering and celebrating its roots — and that lead me back to the prairie and Moorhead, the home of the Prairie Home Cemetery across the street from Concordia College, and the Lutherans, and to the idea of a festival."

A contributor to The Atlantic, Harper's, The New Yorker and other magazines, Keillor lives in New York City, where he produces the "American Radio Company" show. The author of "Lake Wobegon" and three other books has broken box office records with concerts and programs throughout the United States and in London.

Registration for A Prairie Home Festival is \$25. For tickets, call 218-299-4366, or send a self-addressed, stamped envelope to Prairie Home Festival, Cultural Events Office, Concordia College, 901 S. Eighth St., Moorhead, Minn. 56562.