Vol. 77 No.3 October 5, 2026

After School…

The Newsletter of Minneapolis Retired Teachers

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Welcomes You

to School Year 2026 - 2027



September's meeting of MRTI featured entertainment, Bluegrass style by one of our favorite groups,

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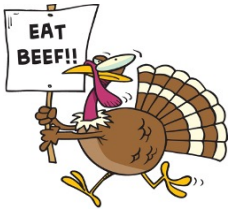
Spotlight On ….
New Retirees



Left to right: **Lisa Mattson, Alan Subola, Diane Langille, Suzanne Mears**

Every September, MRTI extends an invitation to lunch to all of Minneapolis Public Schools' new retirees. This year, four people accepted our invitation and joined us for a delicious hot turkey dinner and a serenade by Monroe Crossing. Introduced to our members as part of the opening ceremonies of this first meeting of the school year, our guests are well-deserving of praise, having served MPS for periods ranging from 20 to 37 years in assignments stretching from ECFE to high school. We thank Lisa, Alan, Diane and Suzanne for their yeoman service to Minneapolis and its children and we happily welcome them to the wonderful world of retirement.





Bill of Fare

October 20 -Beef stew with cornbread, sherbet and melon for dessert

November 17 - Lasagna with garlic toast, dinner salad and carrot cake

December 15 - Baked chicken breast w/ gravy, rice, mixed vegetables, chocolate pudding for dessert

January 19 - Spaghetti and meatballs, garlic toast, dinner salad, cheesecake

The dining room opens at 11:30
A vegetarian option is available; include the request when making your reservation. The kitchen is unable to offer other choices.

The lunch price remains $25.00 which includes the lunch, tax, tip and the entertainment. (Thanks to the Eagles Board of Governors.) We happily accept cash or checks.

Phone callers record both names and phone numbers for reservations, which will be checked off at the ticket table. If you wish to cancel your reservation and not be billed for it, you must call **Gayle Marko** by the Sunday prior to the ***meeting***

If you have **NOT** been called by **Monday, a a week before the luncheon,** and you wish to attend, please **call Gayle Marko** to make a reservation. If you make your reservations by **email with J**an Wahl, **please do not make one with a phone caller.**

Any questions or concerns, please call Gayle at 612-205-4130.

This month's MRTI Luncheon email reservations will come to you from the following address:

mrtilunch @gmail.com

If you requested an email contact for lunch but did not receive one, please do the following BEFORE October 10

1. Check your spam folder
2. Send an email to the above address
3. Call Gayle Marco at 612-205-4130 to reserve a spot at the upcoming luncheon.

Did You Know…

MRTI contributes to many programs that support Minneapolis children? Your dues support annual contributions to:

-The Assistance League
- Mary's Place
- Boys and Girls Clubs of Minneapolis
- Jeremiah Program
- Harriet Tubman Center
- Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Twin Cities
- People Serving People
- Minneapolis Recreation Development



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Fall & Winter Program Schedule



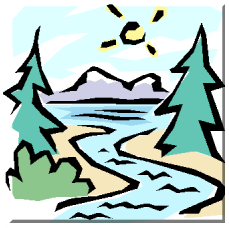
October 20, 2026
Floras Musical Program



November 17, 2026
James Wedgwood, Ventriloquist



December 15, 2026
Dorothy Doring
Holiday Program



January 19, 2027
"Minnesota State Parks" presented by Doug Ohman

Sept. welcome….



Monroe Crossing.
Musicians Derek Johnson (guitar & lead singer), Lisa Fuglie (fiddle & vocals), Matt Thompson (mandolin & vocals), Mark Anderson (bass) and Jake Ashworth (banjo) combine to present music that is lively, beautifully harmonized and recognized all over the world. Named in honor of Bill Monroe, the father of bluegrass music, the group serenaded us with classics like *Rockytop, Tennessee, Hobos in the Round-house and Blue Virginia blues; i*nstrumental pieces by Bluegrass idols Flatt and Scruggs, original songs like *The Preamble (*the words of The Preamble to the US Constitution set to music - a tribute to the tv series *School House Rock*) and *Yukon Territory*.

Monroe Crossing was first introduced to MRTI nearly 7 years ago by the late Margaret Tuma, a long-time Board member and lover of Bluegrass music. Our pleasure in hearing this truly American music was enhanced by the presence of Margaret's daughter, Mercedes. What a delightful way to begin the school year!



1926: *MRTI* IS BORN

By Elmer Koch

A visit to the Internet revealed a whole host of things that were happening 100 years ago… historical, societal, in economics, and some just plain "curiosities."

How were folks living back then? Well, you could rent a house for $25 to $50 per month. For around $7000 you could purchase a nice home for your family. To get around town, a Model T Ford was for sale at $360 (available in every color as long as it was black). To afford these basics, people brought home an average income of $2000 to $2300 a year, teachers averaged about $1298! (Inflation comparison: $100 in 1926 equates to about $1886 today.)

Cash in hand, you took a trip to the local grocery store to buy a 9 cent loaf of bread, an 18 cent quart of milk, a pound of coffee for 50 cents, a dozen eggs varied from 34 to 55 cents, or maybe you splurged on a round steak for 37 cents a pound. On your way home you filled up your gas tank for 22 cents a gallon!

Once back home you could listen to the radio…NBC began network broadcasting this year. You might enjoy listening to some music. The top song of the year was "Valencia" by the Paul Whiteman Orchestra. Other popular songs on the charts included "Baby Face," "Sleepy Time Gal," and "Bye Bye Blackbird." If you were in the mood to read a good book, you could pick up the just published Winnie-the-Pooh. If you felt like going to the movies it would cost you 25 cents! Your movie might have featured the top star, Rudolph Valentino.

Your day might start or end by reading a newspaper. Editions were available both times. Big news items were about the first public showing of TV, and the first firing of a liquid fuel rocket launch. The establishment of Route 66 encouraged the public to "see America." The Nazi party held its second congress in Germany. Gertrude Ederlie was the first woman to swim the English Channel. Bobby Jones won the US Open, while Babe Ruth was active on the baseball field. Prohibition was in full swing with US #1 criminal, Al Capone, reining.

That was the year that was. Were they the "good old days" or not?

Congrats to MRTI leaders, past and present, and to you, our dedicated members for maintaining this organization and supporting its mission for the Retired Teachers' Community from Minneapolis Public Schools. Here's to another 100 years!

Vote YES for the Permanent School Fund Amendment

Vote YES for Minnesota students and **vote YES** for a Constitutional Amendment to the Permanent School Fund. Your YES vote will add a modest amount of money from the fund to every public school district in Minnesota. It won't raise anybody's taxes or cost Minnesotans a single penny.

IF you don't vote on the amendment, your non-vote will be counted as a **NO** vote. **A majority of voters need to Vote YES for it pass.**

The Permanent School Fund consists of revenue generated by designated school trust lands and investment growth. The fund is made up of income the state receives from selling and or leasing its natural resources. The fund and its sources were defined in Minnesota's first Constitution in 1858. The fund has distributed monies to every public school district in the state since it was established. T**he amendment will not change the Permanent School Fund; it will increase the fund revenue distributed to Public School Districts in Minnesota.**

If the amendment passes, funds will be distributed to all public school districts in the state, based on student enrollment (as they have been for the past 168 years). However, the per-pupil distribution will increase from 2.5 percent of the fund's three-year average market value to 4.5 percent of the fund's three-year average market value, currently $2.5 billion.

*Here's how the distribution helps school districts: in 2025, MPS received **$2.3 million** from the Permanent School Fund. If the amendment passes, the district will receive an additional $30-$35 per pupil.*

Learn more about the Permanent School Fund at the Minnesota Office of School Trust Lands.

Visit the MRTI Website

One of the services for MRTI members is our website:

www.mrti.org

Check it out for information on our luncheon programs, the grant and scholarship programs, Committee of13 updates, lists of Board Members, Limited Medical Assistance Fund, lists of deceased members and more. Use this resource...it's for you!

Interested in political activity?

Retired Teachers Council 59 (RTC 59) 10 AM through lunch

"Linking, Learning and Lunch"

Oct. 27(may be by Zoom),

Dec 8 meeting will be in- person at the Local 59 office 67-8th Avenue NE.

Jan 26 & Feb 23 meetings will be via Zoom

Watch for notices in your email ….

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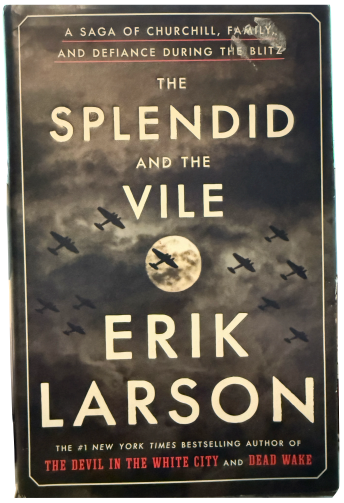
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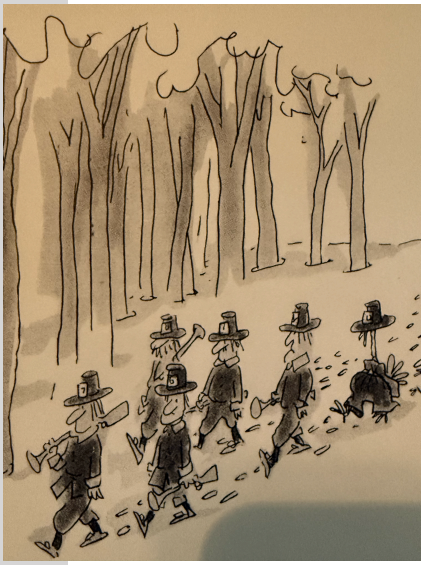
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The Splendid and the Vile

by Erik Larson

Hundreds of books have been written about World War II. Often, they're written by participants in one arena or another, in drama, mystery, satire or even romance genres. This book is another recounting of the War, but several things distinguish it from others. First, it is written by a masterful author who makes a scrupulously researched and documented history read like fiction. Second, it deals with only the first year of Churchill's Prime Ministerial tenure, 1940-41, comparing Churchill and Hitler on a nearly day-by-day basis for that first year. Using recently declassified government documents, personal diaries. pronouncements by the two men and their respective governments, speeches, plans, their frustrations, their accommodations, personal activities and accomplishments and relations with staff, families and friends during the year of the Blitz, Larson takes the reader back to a time of true leadership, eloquence and bravery.



Becoming Prime Minister the same day that Hitler's forces invaded Holland and Belgium, Churchill was faced with the need to form a War cabinet, ramp up the production of armaments, curry favor with the isolationist American government, convince Franklin Roosevelt that Britain would fight on no matter the consequences, fill the war-weary British people with the belief that they could do something spectacular and try to encourage French allies that they should do more than just sit on the Maginot line and wait for the attack.

Two weeks later, the Dunkirk miracle rescued nearly 350,000 British and French soldiers, but lost all their arms and armaments and Churchill was forced to turn British guns on the French battle-ships sitting in the Mediterranean, rather than risk their falling into Nazi hands.

Through their letters and diaries, the reader gets an intimate look at the relationships between Churchill, his wife Clementine, his son, Randolph and his youngest daughter, Mary and the many interesting and varied people of his "secret circle" who shared their lives at #10 Downing Street, Chequers, their country retreat, and Ditchley, the rural retreat they used when the moon was full and the Nazi bombing too accurate. Through Larson's careful research and masterful writing, we get a chance to see how the giants of our past worked to defeat the horrors of Nazism and fascism.

Funds are available for medical reimbursement.
Give TRA a call to request an application.

651-296-2409

Limited Medical Assistance Fund (LMAF) (administered by the Teachers Retirement Association)

TRA

Overview

The Limited Medical Assistance Fund (LMAF) was established in the 1930s through a bequest of a retired Minneapolis teacher.

A trust was established to reimburse certain medical costs of retired Minneapolis teachers, and is administered by the Teachers Retirement Association.

To qualify for reimbursement, a retiree must have been a Minneapolis Special School District #1 teacher

Reimbursements

Eligible retirees may request reimbursement for:

- Allowable medical expenses
- Health insurance premiums (when funds permit)

Medical Expenses

Allowable medical expenses, if these expenses are not covered by Medicare or any other form of insurance, include:

- inpatient or outpatient procedures performed at hospitals, clinics or surgery centers; and
- licensed nursing care or prosthetic devices.

Expenses that are not eligible include: dental care, nursing home care, medication, therapy, glasses, out-patient services, non-medical items.
Reimbursements are reviewed and disbursements made twice a year.

How To Apply

Call TRA to request information. If expenses are determined to be eligible, an application will be mailed to you.

Complete and return the application to TRA, along with expense receipts.

Health Insurance Premium Expenses

(when funds permit)

To be eligible for health insurance premium reimbursement, a retiree must meet all of the following criteria:

- be age 65 or older;
- have retired after May 1, 1974, but before July 1, 1999; and
- not be eligible for free Medicare Part A coverage.

Reimbursements are reviewed and disbursements made twice a year.

Contact Us

Teachers Retirement Association 60 Empire Drive, Suite 400
St. Paul, MN 55103-4000

651.296.2409 or 800.657.3669
651.297.5999 (FAX)

MRTI Newsletter October 2026
Chris Poppe, editor

Our meeting location

Eagles Club #34 American Legion
(On the corner of E. 25th St. & 25th Ave. S)
2507 E. 25th Street
Minneapolis, MN 55406



Plenty of Free parking

Articles, opinion essays and comments are welcome and should be directed to:

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