

## ***-June-***

### **Life Experiences: Alan Page**

*Tuesday, June 12, 1:30-3:30 P.M.*

Alan Page recently retired after 22 years as a justice on the Minnesota Supreme Court. He will reminisce about early experiences growing up in Canton, Ohio, his sports career with the NFL, and his legal career. His active retirement focuses on creating educational opportunities for Minnesota students of color through Page Education Foundation. He will also entertain questions from the audience.

### **Great Decisions: Session 5-Turkey a Partner in Crisis**

*Monday, June 18, 11:00-1:30 P.M*

## ***-July-***

### **Tom Hanson: Diplomacy Update**

#### **What is “Pax Americana” (Latin for “American Peace”)?**

*Tuesday, July 10, 1:30-3:30 P.M.*

Historically, there have been similar periods of peace, economic growth and civil order backed by the prevailing military power such as “Pax Romana”, and “Pax Britannia”. Our “Pax Americana” is characterized by the preponderance of power enjoyed by the United States thus producing a civilization of prosperity in military, trade and manufacturing. What does the future hold for “Pax Americana”? Will it find itself forced into a quasi-imperialist role by its status? Or, could America find itself shifting in a new and different direction? Tom Hanson, an expert in foreign policy, will join our Lakes Area Unlimited Learning session again this year. He is a retired U.S. Diplomat and teaches foreign policy at UMD.

## ***-August-***

### **The Great Flu Pandemic Hits Rural Minnesota, 1918-1920**

*Tuesday, August 14, 1:30-3:30 P.M.*

When influenza reached epidemic levels in Minnesota in 1918, the state and townships tried to stem its spread by limiting public gatherings and movement between places. Local Red Cross chapters switched from rolling bandages for the war effort to making masks and pneumonia jackets. The survivors stretched to feed their sick neighbors. Local life was affected as much by the flu as the ongoing Great War. Jennifer Gunn, PhD. is professor of the History of Medicine and director of the Institute of Advanced Study at the University of Minnesota.

Weather permitting, those who are interested will drive to Woodland Cemetery, Irondale Township, to see flu victim burials. Adjacent to these burials is also the grave of notorious gangster, John Sealund, who was electrocuted and publicly displayed in Crosby before burial.

### **Field Visit to the USDA US Forest Service Research “SPRUCE” Experiment**

The USDA U.S. Forest Service is conducting experiments that will help us understand how climate will affect Minnesota peatlands and wetlands that are home to spruce, tamarack trees, moss, birds, wildlife and the whole eco-system. In collaboration with the Oak Ridge National Lab, scientists are conducting temperature change experiments in 10 climate labs erected on a bog. The data shows that this bog has the fastest rising temperatures in the upper 48 states. Join us on this bog, a hidden gem in research that is revealing what the future might look like for this northern peatland. Team leader soil chemist Randy Kolka PhD. will conduct the tour of about 2 hours near Marcell (north of Grand Rapids). August 28<sup>th</sup>. Car pool leaves at 10:30 A.M., lunch in Grand Rapids, tour 1:30 P.M. Call Karen Wilson for details and to reserve. Cell: 651 270 1778 or gmail: northwoodskaren@gmail.com. Everyone is welcome, no fees.

*August 28<sup>th</sup> Field Trip, 10:30-4:00 P.M.*

### ***-September-***

### **“Big Two-Hearted River” A Discussion with Jack Hickerson**

*Tuesday, Sept. 11, 1:30-3:30P.M.*

In this short story “Big Two-Hearted River” Ernest Hemingway portrays his semi-autobiographical protagonist Nick Adams as a suffering soul who has undergone some unnamed trauma. Whether we call Nick’s affliction “battle fatigue,” “shell shock,” or “PTSD,” the perennial question is how does one cope with such distress? Perhaps the answer partially lies in the regenerative power of nature. Hemingway’s modern style is intentionally sparse in plot and heavy in description, allowing the sensitive reader to become immersed in the subject matter. Jack Hickerson, Professor Emeritus in literature from Southwest Minnesota State University will lead the discussion after viewing an hour of a longer film on Hemingway’s dynamic, complex, troubled, and rather short life.

### **Great Decisions: Session 6-U.S. Global Engagement and the Military**

*Monday, Sept. 17, 11:00-1:30P.M*

***-October-***

### **Education for Minnesota's Native Americans**

Charles Black Lance, of Lakota/Ojibwe heritage and Director of the TRIO Programs at Central Lakes College in Brainerd will provide an historical overview of American Indian Education in Minnesota and lead the discussion of current issues and opportunities facing students and educators today. The federal program TRIO provides outreach to identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds (first generation students, individuals with disabilities, low-income individuals,). TRIO includes 8 programs targeted to serve and assist these students from middle school through post-baccalaureate programs. Mr. Black Lance grew up in northwestern Minnesota and attended University of North Dakota through graduate school. He is currently working on his Ed. D. in educational Leadership at Bethel University. He has also participated in Blandin Community Leadership Program, Minnesota State Colleges Luoma Leadership Academy and served in a state wide American Indian Educational Liason position for Minnesota State Colleges and Universities  
*Tuesday, October 9, 1:30-3:30P.M.*

### **Great Decisions: Session 7-South Africa's Fragile Democracy**

*Monday, Oct. 15, 11:00-1:30P.M.*

### **Fine Dining Returns...**

Put on your best duds and join us for dinner on Friday, October 26 at Ruttger's Resort. We are still in the planning stages for a gathering with entertainment and good food. Stay tuned. Call Diane Landstad if you have ideas or want to help. Call 218.927.4380 or email-dplanstad@gmail.com.

*Friday, October 26, 6 P.M-9:00 P.M*

***-November-***

## **Old Forests, Woodpeckers, and Wildlife that Depend on Them**

Mike North will discuss recent research emphasizing the interdependence between old growth forests and woodpeckers in Minnesota. This research has also revealed dependence of other wildlife on both the forests and woodpeckers. Mike North is an employee of the Minnesota DNR, where he has written management plans for forest wildlife and their habitat; and has conducted environmental review of development projects for the last 20 years. Prior to coming to the MN DNR, Mike worked for the U.S. Dept. Of Interior in Alaska for 11 years, and in North Dakota, where he conducted wildlife research on loons, waterfowl, seabirds, and shorebirds, as well as doing some prairie restoration work. He is a Master Bird-bander, having banded nearly 20,000 birds and has also taught over 3000 children about birds.

*Tuesday, Nov. 13, 1:30-3:30P.M.*

## **Great Decisions: 8-Global Health: Progress and Challenges**

*Monday, Nov. 19, 11:00-1:30P.M.*