

Minnesota Historical Society Press

NEW TITLES

Fall 2025



The Minnesota Historical Society Press is a leading publisher of the history and culture of Minnesota and the Upper Midwest. The Press advances research, supports education, serves the local community, and expands the reputation of the MNHS through the publication of books and e-products, the *Minnesota History* journal, and the free, digital encyclopedia MNopedia.

TRUE NORTH Cabin Cookbook

Volume Two: Seasonal Recipes from a Cozy Kitchen

STEPHANIE HANSEN

Join bestselling cookbook author and media personality Stephanie Hansen at her midwestern table to celebrate life in the northland with charming tales and delicious dishes for the colder months of the year.

Stephanie Hansen's first book, *True North Cabin Cookbook: Recipes and Stories from a North Woods Table*, transported readers to her family outpost on True North Island on Burntside Lake near Ely, Minnesota, to savor meals for the cabin months of May through September. Now, Volume Two extends an invitation to Hansen's Twin Cities home as well as her Ely lodging during the balance of the year, commemorating "the cozy months" of October through April with friends and family and of course—excellent food.

Month by month, each section opens with a personal narrative that speaks to the highlights of the season, whether reflecting on traditional holidays or the quiet wonders of the winter landscape. With her trademark humor, Hansen opens her heart and her kitchen to readers and



NEW TITLES

AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER

COOKING / REGIONAL & CULTURAL, 224 PAGES, 8 × 10, 150 RECIPES, 160 COLOR PHOTOS, INDEX HARDCOVER, \$29.95, ISBN: 978-1-68134-322-8 *E-BOOK*, \$19.99, ISBN: 978-1-68134-328-0

home cooks who may appreciate a tasty Pomegranate Old-Fashioned paired with a Baked Party Brie and who embrace the opportunity to gather with loved ones to enjoy comfort food at its finest.

From soups to salads to entrées to desserts—featuring dishes like Beer Cheese Wild Rice Soup, Braised Red Cabbage with Apples, Juicy Lucy Cheeseburger Tater Tot Hot Dish, and Banana Bread Cookies with Cream Cheese Frosting—accompanied by tender remembrances and insightful tips, this cookbook continues the tradition of Hansen hospitality in the true north.

Stephanie Hansen is the author of *True North Cabin Cookbook*, the award-winning host of *Taste Buds with Stephanie*, and the social commentator behind the *Weekly Dish* radio show and *Dishing with Stephanie's Dish* podcast. She lives in Golden Valley, Minnesota.

NEW TITLES

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PRAISE FOR THE BOOK ...

"We always say: Stephanie's a total firecracker! From the moment you meet her, you feel that spark, that warmth, that joy. And this book? It's so her. Think comforting Midwest classics, stories that make you smile, and flavors that bring people together. It's like sitting around the table with an old friend—full of heart, full of flavor, and with just the right amount of sass."

-ALIA ELKAFFAS AND RADWA ELKAFFAS, creators of Food Dolls and authors of Pretty Delicious

"Stephanie has perfectly curated these recipes: on every page, all I see is cozy and homey! This book is great for accessible yet unexpected weeknight dinner inspiration, featuring a bunch of unique combinations that highlight flavors you and your loved ones already enjoy."

-HAYDEN HAAS, author of Simply Delishaas

PRAISE FOR STEPHANIE HANSEN ...

"Everyone is seeking a simpler, more localized, and home-crafted lifestyle these days, and Stephanie Hansen's *True North Cabin Cookbook* delivers that by the barrel. You can smell the pine woods, hear the rain on the lake, feel the sun on your skin. Most important, tasting the incredible recipes gets everyone to their own True North."

—ANDREW ZIMMERN,

award-winning host of Bizarre Foods, Family Dinner, and The Zimmern List









True North Cabin Cookbook: Recipes and Stories from a North Woods Table Stephanie Hansen HARDCOVER, \$29.95, ISBN: 978-1-68134-235-1 *E-BOOK*, \$19.99, ISBN: 978-1-68134-302-0

Jul: Swedish American Holiday Traditions Patrice M. Johnson PAPERBACK, \$19.95, ISBN: 978-1-68134-248-1

FROM THE BOOK ...

Pan-Roasted Chicken Thighs with Roasted Grapes

Serves 4

Grapes in Minnesota are polarizing. We had to suffer through a disgrace when some national media outlet dubbed our most recognized state food as grape salad. Allow me to declare here and now: NO! Grape salad is NOT a beloved dish in Minnesota. We don't love it during the holidays, and we don't love it during potlucks. In fact, grape salad didn't originate in Minnesota, so who decided we needed



to be the state that was saddled with this unpopular side dish? But I digress. If you are going to use grapes in cooking, try a savory treatment like grapes pressed into focaccia, roasted alongside pork, or in this tasty chicken skillet dish.

1 tablespoon Dijon mustard 3 teaspoons kosher salt 2 teaspoons dried sage 1 teaspoon smoked paprika 1 teaspoon black pepper 6 boneless skin-on chicken thighs 1 tablespoon extra-virgin olive oil

4 small shallots (or 2 large),
sliced into rings
1 cup chicken broth
4 small clusters red grapes still attached to the stem, about ½ cup each
4 sprigs fresh thyme

Heat oven to 425 degrees. In a medium bowl, stir together the mustard, salt, sage, paprika, and pepper. Toss the chicken thighs in the mixture, massaging to coat.

Heat a heavy-bottomed or cast iron pan on the stovetop over medium heat for 3 minutes. Add olive oil and heat until shimmering. Add the chicken thighs, skin side down, and cook, undisturbed, until golden brown and crispy, about 10 minutes. Flip each chicken thigh to be skin side up. Nestle the sliced shallots, cut side down, between the chicken pieces. Pour in the chicken broth and use a wooden spoon to scrape up any browned bits. Top with the grape clusters and thyme sprigs.

Transfer the pan to the oven and cook until the thickest part of each chicken thigh registers 185 degrees, about 15–20 minutes. Turn the broiler to high and broil for 2 minutes to get the grapes all nice and roasty. Remove the chicken from the oven and let rest 5 minutes before serving with mashed potatoes.

NEW TITLES

BECOMING THE TWIN CITIES

Swindles, Schemes, and Enduring Rivalries

DREW M. ROSS

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In Becoming the Twin Cities, award-winning writer Drew M. Ross uncovers the nineteenth-century history of scheming and self-dealing, social rivalries and political grudges, and utopian idealism and personal ambition that explain how Minneapolis and St. Paul became the separate cities with different governments and distinct personalities that we know today.

Beginning with the story of Fort Snelling's founding and Joseph Plympton's expansion of a reserve around it, Ross follows up with the land-grabbing and moneymaking schemes of Henry Rice and Franklin Steele, explores the rivalries between local Republicans and Democrats (and their partisan newspapers), and details the battles over the locations and significance of the capitol, the state fair, and the Midway neighborhood. Figures like Lieutenant Zebulon Pike and tavern keeper Stephen Desnoyer, visionary architect Horace W. S. Cleveland, religious leader (and land speculator) Archbishop John Ireland, and the pugnacious publisher Bill King-all had a hand in the push-pull tension that has fundamentally shaped the Twin Cities to this day.



AVAILABLE NOVEMBER

HISTORY / URBAN PLANNING / 19th CENTURY, 280 PAGES, 6 × 9, 40 B&W MAPS AND PHOTOS, NOTES, BIBLIOGRAPHY, INDEX PAPERBACK, \$27.95, ISBN: 978-1-68134-323-5 *E-BOOK*, \$14.99, ISBN: 978-1-68134-324-2

The Twin Cities do not align to a natural or inevitable division on the map. Instead, people made the border between Minneapolis and St. Paul, attempted to erase it, and ultimately underscored it. *Becoming the Twin Cities* examines the historical underpinnings of a beloved American metropolitan region's unique identity.

Drew M. Ross is a writer, editor, and researcher. For his writing on local history, he won the 2024 Solon J. Buck Award from the Minnesota Historical Society. He lives in St. Paul, Minnesota.

FROM THE BOOK ...

From the very beginning of European settlement, people believed that the upper Mississippi would be home to a great metropolis.

The familiar process of urban growth entailed rapidly expanding urban areas that over time absorbed outlying towns and villages. People pointed to the growth and evolution of other cities, including New York City, Philadelphia, and Chicago, as examples. Each one swallowed up its competition and kept on growing. When Minneapolis, Minnesota, absorbed its cross-river neighbor, St. Anthony, in 1872, observers and residents saw unfolding yet another instance of the iron law of urban development. In the mid-nineteenth century, belief in this law was unquestioned. Everyone assumed that, eventually, the same law—not of human convention but of nature itself—would compel Minneapolis's merger with its archetypal rival, St. Paul. Regardless of political party, social status, or personal interest, virtually everyone believed the two cities would become one. But it is now the twenty-first century and that prophecy remains unfulfilled.

How St. Paul and Minneapolis became twins—and stayed twins—is the story of an exception, the most unlikely outcome. This book tells that story.





Transportation



ALSO OF INTERES



Minneapolis: An Urban Biography, Updated Edition Tom Weber PAPERBACK, \$18.95, ISBN: 978-1-68134-260-3 *E-BOOK*, \$13.99, ISBN: 978-1-68134-263-4

Boosters, Hustlers, and Speculators: Entrepreneurial Culture and the Rise of Minneapolis and St. Paul, 1849-1883 Jocelyn Wills PAPERBACK, \$22.95. ISBN: 978-1-68134-103-3

• NEW TITLES

MARTIN SABO

The Making of the Modern Legislature

LORI STURDEVANT

US Congressman Martin Sabo's early work in Minnesota state government set the mold for how state legislatures across the country have operated since, and continues to wield influence today.

Best known as US Representative of Minnesota's Fifth District, Martin Sabo also made significant contributions to American political life while serving in the Minnesota Legislature.

Minnesota has long been acknowledged as the state that works. Its government has been celebrated, if occasionally contested, and has been emulated by other states for decades. But today's modern, professional state legislature was not inevitable. In the late 1960s-early 1970s Minnesota took a giant step toward a state government that fairly represents all the state's regions and populations, one that operates in public view. It was a government that shouldered increased responsibility for the education and well-being of its citizens. And it served as an operational model for legislatures around the country.

At the center of those changes was a modest young man from tiny Alkabo, North Dakota, Martin Olav Sabo. Sabo demonstrated an understanding of repre-

MARTIN SABO

THE MAKING OF THE Modern legislature

LORI STURDEVANT

AVAILABLE AUGUST

BIOGRAPHY & AUTOBIOGRAPHY / POLITICS, 288 PAGES, 6 × 9, 18 B&W ILLUSTRATIONS, NOTES, BIBLIOGRAPHY, INDEX PAPERBACK, \$27.95, ISBN: 978-1-68134-325-9 *E-BOOK*, \$14.99, ISBN: 978-1-68134-326-6

sentative democracy and a quality of leadership that made him a highly effective catalyst for positive change. He spent his entire adult life in public service, but it was during his years as DFL minority leader and as speaker of the Minnesota House that he did his most transformative and lasting work. Enhancing Sabo's rich legacy, this volume focuses attention on his early career and the systemic, enduring contributions to governance he initiated.

Lori Sturdevant reported on state and local politics during a forty-three-year career at the *Minnesota Star Tribune*. The author or editor of thirteen books, she is a three-time winner of the Minnesota Book Award. She lives in St. Paul, Minnesota.

<u>NEW TITLES</u>

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FROM THE BOOK ...

From the vantage of 2025, there's something quaint about the political style of Martin Olav Sabo. A leading Minnesota legislator and congressman of the late twentieth century, Sabo was a shoe-leather, door-to-door candidate who never aired an attack ad or publicly slung a demeaning epithet at an opponent. He was a stu-



State Senator Nicholas Coleman with Martin Sabo in 1979. MNHS collections

dent of the "inside baseball" of the legislative branch of government calendars, committee assignments, fiscal notes, office space. (And yes, he also studied baseball.) He cared not just about what government did but also about how it performed and which level of government was best suited to the task at hand. He didn't just refuse to demonize members of the opposite party. He befriended them and encouraged their participation in decision-making.

Those characteristics may sound like the practices of an earlier time. But that does not mean they should be dismissed or forgotten. This book was born of a conviction that the Sabo story is worth telling amid



the cutthroat partisanship that characterizes twenty-first-century American politics. The anxiety many Americans feel about their system of government makes now an apt time to examine the life and work of someone who showed that it is indeed possible to make that system work "for the better."

Martin Sabo at DFL state convention, 1978. Photograph by Steve Schlueter, MNHS collections







Her Honor: Rosalie Wahl and the Minnesota Women's Movement Lori Sturdevant PAPERBACK, \$18.95, ISBN: 978-0-87351-806-2 *E-BOOK*, \$14.99, ISBN: 978-0-87351-934-2

When Republicans Were Progressive Dave Durenberger with Lori Sturdevant PAPERBACK, \$19.95, ISBN: 978-1-68134-078-4 *E-BOOK*, \$14.99, ISBN: 978-1-68134-079-1

NEW TITLES HOW TO DRAW A TREE

STORY BY DAVID LaROCHELLE ILLUSTRATIONS BY COLLEEN MUSKE

The key to drawing a tree—or anything, for that matter—is to understand your subject. How do you get to know a tree? Use all your senses!

Would you like to draw a tree? Here's how. First, you'll need to make friends with your tree. Feel it. Smell it. Listen to it. Look at your tree from close up and far away. Notice all the things that make your tree special, from the shape of its leaves to the variety of colors hidden within.

There are so many words that could describe a tree: prickly, shimmery, scraggly, squat, ancient, graceful, crooked, proud. What words would you choose?

All these details will help when you sit down to draw your tree. You can show everything you observed, from color to texture to shape. Then you can introduce your tree to others—using your words and your artwork.



AVAILABLE AUGUST

CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS, 32 PAGES, 10 × 10, FULLY ILLUSTRATED HARDCOVER, \$18.95, ISBN: 978-1-68134-321-1

Every tree is unique. The pages of How to Draw a Tree show a wide array of species, with the name for each tucked into the illustrations, encouraging readers to slow down, appreciate, and learn.

Through direct questions and lively examples, longtime children's book author David LaRochelle invites readers to explore their natural surroundings. Colleen Muske's whimsical, vibrant illustrations help readers see trees in a new light. Beyond an art or science lesson, this book encourages young artists to go outside and spend time in nature, exploring firsthand what they plan to draw.

David LaRochelle has been writing and illustrating award-winning children's books for over thirty years. He lives in White Bear Lake, Minnesota. **Colleen Muske** is the writer and illustrator of *Linden: The Story of a Tree*. She lives in Stillwater, Minnesota.

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The Big Leaf Leap Story by Molly Beth Griffin Illustrations by Meleck Davis HARDCOVER, \$17.95, ISBN: 978-1-68134-203-0

Minnesota's Hidden Alphabet Text by David LaRochelle Photographs by Joe Rossi HARDCOVER, \$16.95, ISBN: 978-0-87351-808-6

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NEW TITLES

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THE NAMING Of Aki

STORY BY THOMAS PEACOCK ILLUSTRATIONS BY ALLISON HORNER

This retelling of a traditional Ojibwe story celebrates what First Human and First Wolf see, taste, hear, smell, and touch as they wander Aki, the Earth, to be the namers of things.

The story begins: "In the time soon after the creation, *Nimaamaa Aki*, Mother Earth, was new and without names, so the Creator called upon First Human to walk upon Aki, the Earth, and name all things." First Human sets off on a journey to every corner of Aki and meets all creatures, plants, landforms, and emotions. It's a meaningful and joyful trek—and one best taken with a companion. The Creator calls upon Ma'iingan, Wolf, to join First Human so they can explore together.

As they walk Aki and grow in their friendship and respect for each other, they see how all things are beautiful, how everything is connected and related to



AVAILABLE OCTOBER

CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS, 32 PAGES, 10 × 10, FULLY ILLUSTRATED HARDCOVER, \$18.95, ISBN: 978-1-68134-305-1

the other, and that each has a purpose and reason for being. For everything is sacred. All things come from the Creator's dream. And to honor the Creator and all of creation, they give everything the most beautiful of names.

Accompanied by Allison Horner's vibrant illustrations, this affecting retelling by elder and educator Thomas Peacock invites readers to appreciate our world and all of its wonders, including the close kinship that humans and wolves share from ancient times on through to today.

Thomas Peacock (Fond du Lac Band of Lake Superior Ojibwe) is the author of many books for young readers. He lives in Bayfield, Wisconsin. **Allison Horner** has illustrated picture books for Crow and Lakota language learners. She lives in Jacksonville, Florida.

NEW TITLES "









The Forever Sky Story by Thomas Peacock Illustrations by Annette S. Lee HARDCOVER, \$17.95, ISBN: 978-1-68134-098-2

Mashkiki Road: The Seven Grandfather Teachings Story by Elizabeth S. Barrett Illustrations by Jonathan Thunder HARDCOVER, \$17.95, ISBN: 978-1-68134-238-2

FEATURED BACKLIST

CELEBRATE INDIGENOUS HISTORY AND CULTURE













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The Night Sky, Indigenous Knowledge, and Living Connections to the Cosmos

Text by Annette S. Lee Photographs by Travis Novitsky PAPERBACK, \$19.95, ISBN: 978-1-68134-112-5

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MUUS VS. MUUS The Scandal That Shook Norwegian America Bodil Stenseth

Edited by Kari Lie Dorer Translated by Kari Lie Dorer and Torild Homstad

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