

June 2025 Issue 452

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*¡Feliz día
de los
Padres!*



HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

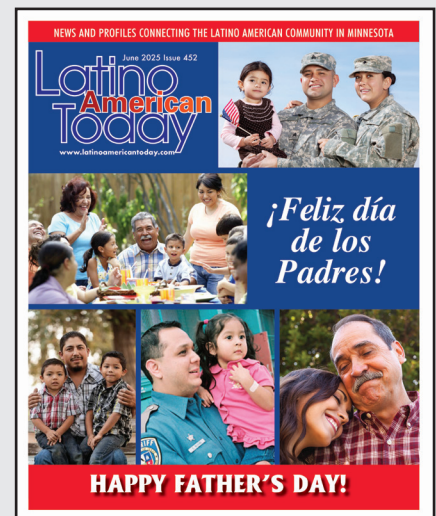
FELIZ día DEL PADRE

By: Rico Vallejos

El Día del Padre comenzó en Estados Unidos a principios del siglo XX. La primera celebración documentada se hizo en 1908 en Fairmont, West Virginia, impulsada por Grace Golden Clayton. En Monongah, una comunidad cercana, un desastre minero había causado la muerte de más de 250 padres de familia, dejando a casi mil niños sin padre. Fue debido a esta tragedia que Grace le pidió a su pastor que hiciera un servicio conmemorando a los padres. Fue una celebración local y se olvidó rápidamente.

La siguiente celebración del Día del Padre ocurrió el 19 de junio de 1910 en Spokane, Washington, promovida por Sonora Smart Dodd. Sonora era hija de un veterano de la guerra civil que había criado a sus seis hijos como padre soltero, y tras oír hablar de las recientes celebraciones del Día de la Madre, instó a pastores y organizaciones locales a que celebraran también a los padres. Sonora seguiría promoviendo la festividad, consiguiendo la ayuda de empresas que esperaban que se convirtiera en una oportunidad comercial. De hecho, incluso cuando la fiesta empezó a suscitar interés político, el público siguió desconfiando de su posible comercialización excesiva.

En 1938 un grupo de minoristas de ropa masculina de la ciudad de Nueva York fundó el Consejo del Día del Padre, buscando un reconocimiento formal de la festividad, pero recibieron fulminantes ataques en los periódicos. Finalmente, después de varios fallidos proyectos de ley, el presidente Lyndon B. Johnson estableció la festividad con una proclamación en 1966, y seis años después el presidente Richard Nixon la convirtió en una fiesta nacional permanente. Desde 1972, el Día del Padre se celebra a nivel nacional anualmente cada tercer domingo de junio.



On The Cover
¡Feliz día de los Padres!
Happy Father's Day!

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Memorial Day



Por Dr. Saul H. Carranza

Memorial Day, conocido en español como el Día de los Caídos, es una celebración que tiene profundas raíces en la memoria de los estadounidenses. Es diferente de las otras celebraciones para recordar a los que ya no están con nosotros porque se observa el último lunes de mayo y está dedicado a honrar a los hombres y mujeres que sacrificaron sus vidas en servicio militar para la nación. Aunque esta conmemoración tiene sus orígenes en la historia estadounidense, ofrece una oportunidad única para reflexionar desde una perspectiva cristiana, basada en los valores de sacrificio, amor y gratitud.

En mis primeros años como Capellán de la Gloriosa Escuela de Músicos Militares del Ejército de Guatemala participé en el homenaje a los músicos militares caídos en combate. Fue un acto muy especial de reconocimiento al sacrificio de aquellos que dieron su vida en el cumplimiento del deber, los que murieron defendiendo a la patria.

La Biblia dice: “Nadie tiene mayor amor que este: que uno ponga su vida por sus amigos.” Juan 15:13. Este versículo encierra el espíritu del Memorial Day, muchos soldados han demostrado este amor supremo ofrendando su vida en servicio a la nación.

El Memorial Day comenzó tras la Guerra Civil, originalmente conocido como “Decoration Day”, se instituyó para decorar las tumbas de los soldados caídos con flores y recordar su sacrificio. Con el paso del tiempo, este día se expandió para incluir a todos los estadounidenses que han muerto en servicio militar y vino a ser un día de unidad nacional y reflexión.

Desde una perspectiva cristiana, este día puede verse como un tiempo para honrar el sacrificio de aquellos que, siguiendo principios de servicio y entrega, dieron su vida por los

demás. En la entrada del cementerio de mi querida ciudad de Quetzaltenango se lee: “La memoria de los vivos es la vida de los muertos.” Aunque creemos en la vida eterna y no participamos en ningún tipo de culto a los muertos, entendemos que honrar, respetar y recordar a los que nos antecedieron constituye un encuentro con nuestras raíces y con la vida y obra de quienes nos antecedieron.

La fe cristiana está profundamente arraigada en el concepto de sacrificio. Jesucristo es el ejemplo supremo de sacrificio al entregar su vida en la cruz por la redención de la humanidad. En este sentido, el Memorial Day sirve como un recordatorio de esta entrega divina, así como de los sacrificios humanos que reflejan ese mismo espíritu de amor y humildad.

Siendo que la vida humana es pasajera, Memorial Day nos invita a recordar que la memoria de los vivos también es pasajera, Pero que el conocimiento de Dios nos dará vida eterna. Ese es el sacrificio que Jesús hizo por nosotros, morir en nuestro lugar para que nosotros no muramos eternamente.

Dr. Saúl Carranza es Coordinador de ministerios Multiculturales de la Iglesia del Nazareno en Minnesota y las Dakotas, Pastor de la Iglesia Familia de Dios en Dayton MN y Director del Centro Nazareno de Compasión Agape Inc.



Memorial Day

By Dr. Saul H. Carranza

Memorial Day, known in Spanish as Día de los Caídos, is a celebration that has deep roots in the memory of Americans. It is different from other celebrations to remember those who are no longer with us because it is observed on the last Monday in May and is dedicated to honoring the men and women who sacrificed their lives in military service for this nation. Although this commemoration has its origins in American history, it offers a unique opportunity to reflect from a Christian perspective, based on the values of sacrifice, love and gratitude.

In my first years as Chaplain of the Glorious School of Military Musicians of the Guatemalan Army I participated in the tribute to the military musicians fallen in combat. It was a very special act of the recognition of the sacrifice of those who gave their lives in the line of duty, those who died defending the homeland.

The Bible says, “There is no greater love than to lay down one’s life for one’s friends.” John 15:13. This verse encapsulates the spirit of Memorial Day; many soldiers have demonstrated this supreme love by offering their lives in service to the nation.

Memorial Day began after the Civil War, originally known as “Decoration Day,” was instituted to decorate the graves of fallen soldiers with flowers and remember their sacrifice. Over time, this day expanded to include all Americans who have died in military service and became a day of national unity and reflection.

From a Christian perspective, this day can be seen as a time to honor the sacrifice of those who, following principles of service and dedication, gave their lives for others. At the entrance of the cemetery in my beloved city of Quetzaltenango we read, “The memory of the living is the life of the dead.” Although we believe in eternal life and do not participate in any kind of cult of the dead, we understand that honoring, respecting and remembering those who came before us constitutes reconnecting with our roots and with the life and work of those who came before us.

The Christian faith is deeply rooted in the concept of sacrifice. Jesus Christ is the supreme example of sacrifice as he gave his life on the cross for the redemption of humanity. In this sense, Memorial Day serves as a reminder of this divine self-giving, as well as of the human sacrifices that reflect that same spirit of love and humility.

Since human life is fleeting, Memorial Day invites us to remember that the memory of the living is also fleeting, but that the knowledge of God will give us eternal life. That is the sacrifice Jesus made for us, to die in our place so that we would not die eternally.



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The Love of a Father – Happy Father’s Day!



Marcia Malzahn

By Marcia Malzahn

How do you explain the love of a father? In a time when it’s normal for children to grow fatherless, it’s difficult to describe what fatherly love means. It is easier to put in words the love of a mother because women display it more tangibly. Women are nurturers, caregivers, and the ones who sacrifice to put food on the table when raising their children alone.

This month we honor and celebrate fathers around the world. Why? Because they deserve to be celebrated too. Although many people have a bad relationship or no relationship with their fathers, those who do treasure it. Children need their fathers in their lives the same way they need their mothers. That’s how they grow up in the healthiest environment possible and how God intended it to be from the beginning.

To begin describing the love of a father, let’s start by sharing the most significant verse from the Bible. **John 3:16-17 (NLT) For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him will not perish but have eternal life. God did not send his Son into the world to condemn it, but to save it.**

Let’s dissect this promise one step at a time:

God SO LOVED the world...

God, the Father, loved the world – all of us – so much! That includes you and me. Love is a verb and it’s an action. He did something for all of us because he cares for every single human being on earth. His love is so strong it encompasses the love of both parents for each person. There are no physical words to describe the kind of love that God has for us.

That he gave his only Son...

God became flesh and came into the world *himself* in the form of Jesus, a human yet divine, to get the job done. He didn’t just send an angel or a messenger. He sent his *only* Son. God does not have any other sons, only Jesus, who is a person of God. And God gave Jesus to us. He gave us the gift of salvation.

So that everyone who believes in him...

Everyone means every person in the entire world so you and me are included. The next key word is who “believes” which is also a verb. Our part is simply to believe

that what God tells us is true. Believe that his promise will come true and believe that Jesus is the Son of God.

Will not perish but have eternal life...

The word “perish” means to die, to pass away, to depart from life. God created us in his image which means that we are a spirit and our spirit lives forever, like God’s. Our bodies are temporary temples of his Holy Spirit when we accept Jesus in our lives. When our body dies, our spirit still lives forever, and we have a choice to make *while we are alive*. To believe in Jesus as God’s Son or not. When we believe in Him, we live with Him in heaven for eternity. When we choose not to believe in Jesus, we perish. This means we will still live forever but we spend eternity in complete separation from God and Jesus *forever*. This is called “the second death” because it’s the spiritual death.

God did not send his Son into the world to condemn it, but to save it.

God our Father had a specific purpose for all of us who choose to believe in Jesus – to save us, forever. The “*wages of sin is death*” (Roman 6:23) and we could never save ourselves from that punishment by doing anything. Therefore, when Jesus came to earth the first time, He came with one mission – to die on the cross for our sins. The fact that Jesus died for *all* our sins combined for the *entire world* is precisely how He saved us. But remember, Jesus did not stay dead. He lives forever! He conquered death once and for all.

If you didn’t have the blessing of having a good earthly father, know that it is not your fault. It’s nothing that you ever did or deserve. But I want you to know that you have a heavenly Father who cares for you and loves you. That’s why He sent His only Son to die for you *individually*, so you can spend eternity in heaven with Him. Yes, that is the love of a Father in action. And that’s all you need to know.

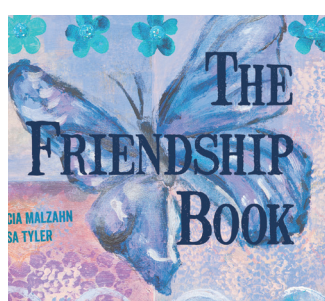
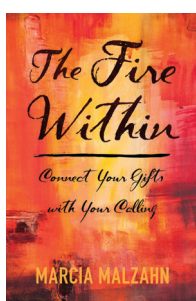
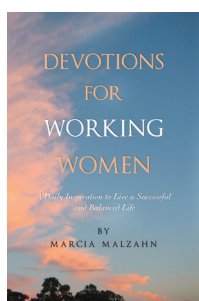
If you still have your earthly father, spend time with him and enjoy quality time. I still have my dad at 98 years old. I know God can call him any day now, so I talk to him almost daily. And to all of you who are godly fathers, thank you for taking the responsibility seriously. Thank you for all you do for your children. But the best thing you can do is to introduce your children to Jesus. That’s how you know for certain that you will spend eternity with your children in heaven with the Father.

I leave you with the other key verse from the Bible:

Jesus told them, I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one can come to the Father except through me. (John 14:6 NLT).

Happy Father’s Day!

Marcia is an inspirational keynote speaker and published author of five books: A daily devotional – *Devotions for Working Women*, *The Fire Within* – to help you find your purpose, friendship poems in *The Friendship Book*, also in Spanish *El Libro de la Amistad* (poemas de Amistad), and *Bring YOUR Shoes* to help emerging leaders with tools on how to lead. In her latest grandma baby book, *Inside Your Mama’s Tummy*, Marcia inspires grandparents to form a bond with their grandchildren.



Marcia Malzahn is also president and founder of Malzahn Strategic, LLC a management consulting firm for community financial institutions. You can contact Marcia for speaking engagements through her website at Crowning Achievements International or email her at mmalzahn@crowning-achievements.com.

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“Patapez,” monumental *alebrije*
by Alejandro Camacho. Photo
by Aaron Johnson-Ortiz for the
Minnesota Latino Museum.



“Osita Emilia,” monumental *alebrije*
by Miriam Salgado. Photo by Aaron
Johnson-Ortiz for the Minnesota
Latino Museum.



Artist Edgar Camargo with
a hand-held alebrije.

ALEBRIJES KEEPERS OF THE ISLAND

“ALEBRIJES: Keepers of the Island,” a breath-taking outdoor public art exhibition on Raspberry Island on the Mississippi River in Saint Paul, running from June 1 to October 26, 2025. The Minnesota Latino Museum will transform the island into a fantastical dreamscape of color, fantasy, and imagination. The immersive exhibit features 16 large-scale papier-mâché sculptures – 8 “Alebrijes Monumentales,” monumental creations up to 16 feet tall; and 8 “Nahuales,” colorfully-painted fauna, up to 4 feet tall, representing Mexican spirit animals.

Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony & Press Conference

Friday, May 30, 2025, 2-3pm

Open Exhibit Dates

Sunday, June 1, 2025 to Sunday, October 26, 2025

Community Celebration

Saturday, June 14, 2025, noon-5pm

Location for all events:

Raspberry Island, Saint Paul, MN 55107

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1 de abr. al 30 de sept., 8 a.m. a 8 p.m., CT, lunes a viernes.

LAS GUARACHERAS



Las Guaracheras es un sexteto femenino de salsa que nació en la ciudad de Cali en el año 2017. A lo largo de su trayectoria ha explorado el formato instrumental con vibráfono y ha buscado aprender del gran legado de las agrupaciones de este tipo, pero con una visión actualizada del sonido de la salsa.

Twin Cities Jazz Festival,
in collaboration with Colombia Live, presents:

Las Guaracheras

the powerhouse all-female salsa band
from Colombia

Colombia Live

bringing vibrant Colombian rhythms
to the stage

Wednesday, June 18

Doors Open: 5:30 PM

Show Starts: 6:00 PM

MacPhail Center for Music,
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Join us for a night featuring unforgettable
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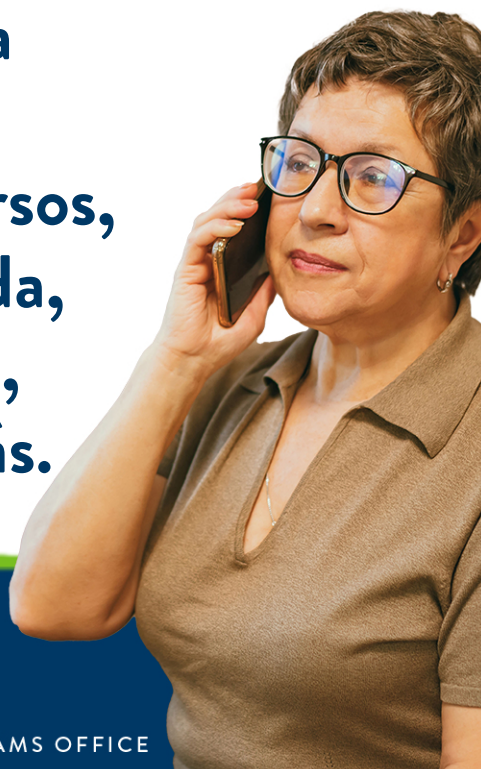


Also, Friday June 20th the
group is playing at the
Twin Cities Jazz Festival in
Mears Park, Saint Paul
Jazz on 5th Street
(Mears Park) 7:30 pm

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Reseña: Aguilar Productions – 29.ª Conferencia Anual de Marketing Hispano y Premios

Aguilar Productions ha vuelto a establecer un alto estándar con su reciente **29º Anual Conferencia y los premios de mercadotecnia hispana**. Este evento único no solo sirve como una poderosa plataforma para las voces latinas y la innovación en marketing, sino que también se destaca por su reconocimiento a los pioneros de la industria. **Pedro Lerma** y **Gary Acosta**. Su influencia en los negocios y el empoderamiento hispano es verdaderamente notable, haciendo de este evento un referente en la industria.

La conferencia es presentada por Aguilar Productions, con sede en las Ciudades Gemelas. Rick Aguilar es el fundador y presidente de la compañía. Entre los patrocinadores se encuentran U.S. Bank, NAHREP Twin Cities y la Cámara de Comercio Latina de Minnesota. La sede de la conferencia, SPNN TV Studios en St. Paul, Minnesota, brindó el ambiente profesional y la energía necesarios para este evento.

La conferencia reunió a las mentes más brillantes del mundo de la publicidad, el branding y la estrategia multicultural. La Cámara de Comercio Latina de Minnesota presentó un resumen de su misión, objetivos y programación.

Uno de los momentos más destacados del evento fue la **Ceremonia de entrega de premios**, un testimonio del reconocimiento del evento a los líderes de la industria. **Pedro Lerma**, Fundador y CEO de LERMA/ group y **Gary Acosta**, Co-fundador y director ejecutivo de la Asociación Nacional de Profesionales Hispanos de Bienes Raíces (NAHREP). Ambos fueron reconocidos por su liderazgo visionario y su incansable labor, respectivamente. Su influencia en el marketing con fluidez cultural y el empoderamiento económico es una clara indicación del valor y la importancia del evento. NAHREP celebra su 25.º aniversario este año!

La singular habilidad de Rick Aguilar para combinar la celebración con la sustancia infundió a la conferencia una energía especial. Fue más que una simple reunión profesional: fue un llamado a la acción para invertir en narrativas y liderazgo inclusivos.

En resumen, la Conferencia y Premios de Marketing Hispano fue una experiencia magistral de participación significativa. Aguilar Productions ha consolidado este evento anual como una cita obligada para profesionales del marketing, emprendedores y cualquier persona comprometida con forjar el futuro de la representación hispana en todos los medios y mas.



Rick Aguilar, Gary Acosta and Pedro Lerma

Review: Aguilar Productions – 29th Annual Hispanic Marketing Conference and Awards

By: Erika Kennedy

Aguilar Productions has once again set a high standard with its recent **29th Annual Hispanic Marketing Conference and Awards**. This unique event not only serves as a powerful platform for Latino voices and innovation in marketing but also stands out for its recognition of industry trailblazers – **Pedro Lerma** and **Gary Acosta**. Their influence in business and Hispanic empowerment is truly remarkable, making this event a standout in the industry.

The Conference is presented by Aguilar Productions based in the Twin Cities. Rick Aguilar is the Founder & President of the company. Sponsors, included, U.S. Bank, NAHREP Twin Cities and the Latino Chamber of Commerce Minnesota. The conference venue, SPNN TV Studios in St. Paul, MN provided the professional vibe and energy for this event.

The conference brought together leading minds in advertising, branding, and multicultural strategy. The Latino Chamber of Commerce Minnesota, presented an overview of their mission, goals and programming.

One of the highlights of the event was the **Award Ceremony**, a testament to the event's recognition of industry leaders **Pedro Lerma**, Founder & CEO of LERMA/, and **Gary Acosta**, Co-founder and CEO of the National Association of Hispanic Real Estate Professionals (NAHREP). They were honored for their visionary leadership and tireless advocacy, respectively. NAHREP is celebrating its 25th Anniversary this year!

Rick Aguilar's unique ability to blend celebration with substance infused the conference with a special energy. It was more than just a professional gathering – it was a call to action to invest in inclusive storytelling and leadership. In summary the Hispanic Marketing Conference and Awards was a masterclass in meaningful engagement. Aguilar Productions has solidified this annual event as a must-attend for marketers, entrepreneurs, and anyone committed to shaping the future of Hispanic representation in media and beyond.



NAHREP Twin Cities Board of Directors with Gary Acosta



John Pacheco, Latino Chamber of Commerce, presenting



Anita Grace, Latino Chamber of Commerce Minnesota



Rick Aguilar conference producer



L to R. Shaun Simpson, Mayra Riera, U.S. Bank

Successful Hispanic Marketing Conference! Attendees & Quotes



Amalia Moreno-Damgaard and Rick Aguilar

“

“It was a pleasure to attend and support the Hispanic Marketing Conference once again. This year’s event truly stood out: insightful sessions, great energy, and meaningful connections all around. Felicidad Rick, for a job well done!”

– Amalia Moreno-Damgaard



Rick presenting Hispanic Marketing Achievement Award to Pedro Lerma



Rick Presenting the La Familia Hispanic Heritage award to Gary Acosta. On the right is Julissa Funes-Roberts, President of NAHREP Twin Cities

“Rick Aguilar is a phenomenal producer, host & MC! His style of thanking sponsors, introducing presenters, presenting awards, creative shoutouts to attendees & storytelling is second to none. We love you Rick!”

– Erika Kennedy, Radio Host

“It was a privilege to be a part of the event”

– Gary Acosta



Erika Kennedy and Rick



Sold out Conference

Judge C.R. Magney State Park Father's Day, 2025: Bring Dad to an Award-Winning Destination

By DNR staff

Photos courtesy of DNR Staff

Many of us think our dad is the best dad in the entire country, and Father's Day, June 15, is a great day to let Dad know that. To make this next Father's Day especially memorable, take your number one Dad for a hike on a number one trail: Devil's Kettle Trail at Judge C.R. Magney State Park in northeastern Minnesota.

The trail took first place in voting for best hiking trail in USA Today 10Best Reader's Choice Awards. Over a period of four weeks, voters nationwide voted on 19 nominees in the hiking trail category. The 19 trails were selected by a panel of USA Today editors and subject matter experts.

"Our visitors have always been captivated by the Devil's Kettle Trail, and this recognition confirms what we've known all along – it's one of the most unique and rewarding hikes in the country," said Erin Turner-Garza, park supervisor at Judge C.R. Magney State Park. "From a peaceful walk through the north woods to the view of the waterfall that seems to defy explanation, it's a place that sparks wonder and invites people to connect with nature in a very memorable way."

Be sure Dad and everyone else wear sturdy hiking shoes or boots. The two-mile round-trip hike winds through forest, following the rushing Brule River. Along the way, hikers climb nearly 400 feet and tackle about 175 steps.

That may sound like a challenge, but your reward is reaching not one but two waterfalls including the park's crown jewel, Devil's Kettle. Here, the river splits – the east side plunges into a pool like a traditional waterfall, while the west side vanishes into a deep, swirling hole in the rock.

The spectacular view of Devil's Kettle waterfall makes this trail super special. For years, no one knew where water in the kettle went. Some

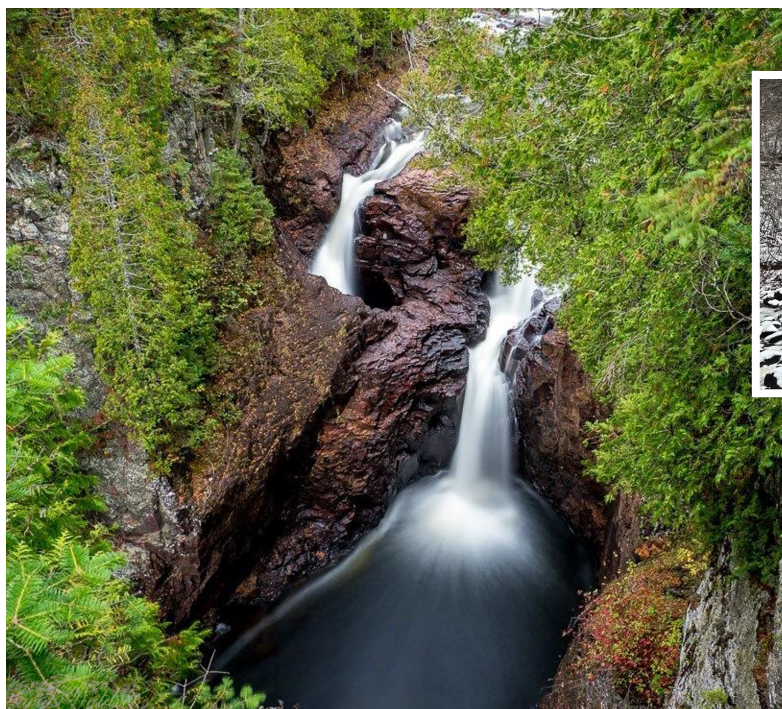
speculated that it flowed underground to Lake Superior. Here's one more mystery: objects thrown into the hole disappeared without reemerging elsewhere.

In 2017, the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources announced that hydrologists found nearly identical volumes of water flowing both above the Devil's Kettle waterfall and below it. That shows the water is likely rejoining the stream below the waterfall. Fluid dynamics offer an explanation as to why objects thrown into the kettle don't resurface. The pool below the hole is a powerful system of recirculating current that can disintegrate material, holding it underwater.

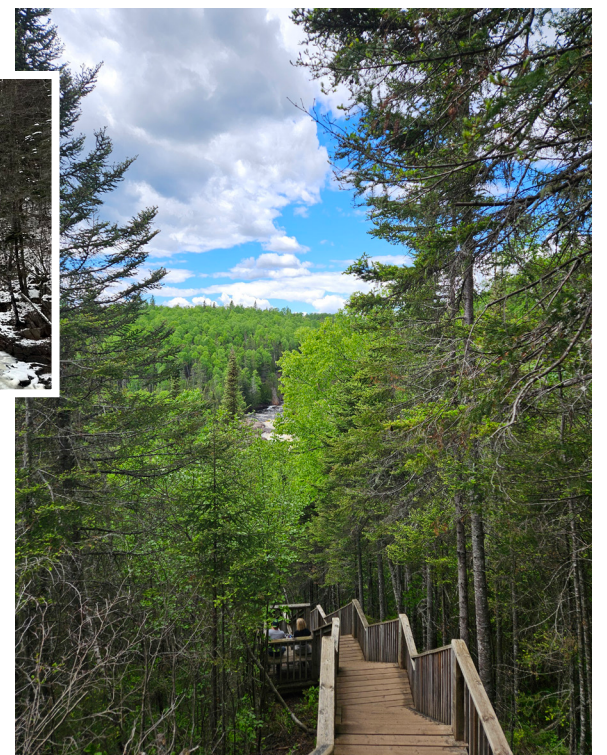
If all of the above tickles your travel bone, why not bring the topic up with friends and family and see who wants to drive north for a long weekend of natural wonder. Far northeastern Minnesota is a tremendous retreat from city and small town life. You and the people you love can recharge your energy levels, rekindle wonder at natural phenomena, and spend time with those who matter, especially Dad on his day. For more information about the trail and the Judge C.R. Magney State Park, go to mndnr.gov/judgemagney.

Stop at the Judge C.R. Magney State Park ranger station or go to mndnr.gov/ permit for your \$7 daily vehicle permit -- or get a \$35 annual vehicle permit that lets you visit all the state parks for one annual fee. See the park website for other amenities, like camping, hiking and picnicking. Always check state park websites before you leave home for news alerts and notices. Bring water and insect spray, dress for the weather, and wear quality hiking shoes or boots.

Judge C.R. Magney State Park



Devil's Kettle Waterfall





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