



BASEBALL
Gopher Classic
founder reflects
on 50 years.
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Deephaven author tells a story of restoration in 'Volante'



(SUBMITTED PHOTOS)

Volante in 1973, sailing in a breeze on the waters of Lake Minnetonka.

**Jade MacRae's
latest book is
part history,
part memoir**

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A near death experience, a 140-year-old boat, and the history of Lake Minnetonka. These are the touchstones of "Volante: Spirit of Mní íá Thánka," the third book by Deephaven author, architect and sailor Jade MacRae.

Designed by legendary boat designer Ned Burgess, the racing yacht named Volante was built

and launched on Lake Minnetonka in 1887. It would become known as one of the fastest and most celebrated boats of its era.

Volante was commissioned by Hazen Burton, a co-founder of the Minnetonka Yacht Club. The boat was built for speed, with a shallow draft, gaff rig and "sandbagger" sloop. Boats of its kind rarely survived long as most were raced hard and intentionally sunk when no longer useful.

"Volante was far and away the fastest boat that was racing [at the time].



See **SAIL** | **PAGE 10** Jade MacRae

Back to School Program returns to provide local families with school supplies

Registration is
open for the Back
to School Program

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The start of the 2026-27 school year is just around the corner, and store shelves will soon be filled with school supplies galore. Every student deserves to feel prepared for their return to the classroom, but not all families have the financial resources available to access the necessary supplies.

To help reduce the financial stress faced by many local families, ResourceWest is hosting its annual Back to School Program, which collects school supplies for children in grades K-12 who are enrolled in the Hopkins or Minnetonka School District; as well as families in the communities of Hopkins, Minnetonka, Deephaven, Excelsior, Greenwood, Shorewood and Woodland.

"[The Back to School Program] is an impactful financial, and then social, and communal impact, in

a really positive way," Zach Spirov, program and community engagement coordinator at ResourceWest, said. "It can carry a pretty significant impact just in somebody's life; get them through that pay period, or get them through that month of expenses when all of a sudden you have to buy school supplies for a handful of people in your household."

The annual program provides hundreds of local families with the school supplies needed for a successful start to the academic year ahead. It's also an opportunity for the community to support children, strengthen families[] and connect neighbors with helpful resources year-round, according to resourcewest.org. Spirov estimated that about 300 to 400 families receive support from the program annually.

Registered students will receive a new backpack and grade-appropriate school supplies based on recommendations from local school districts. All supplies are donated by generous community members and local

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