



# DULUTHINK

NEWSLETTER OF THE LAKE SUPERIOR FREETHINKERS



Safe Haven  
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Join us Sunday February 6th LIVE at 10 am at  
St. Scholastica's Somers Lounge to hear Dr. Shane Courtland present

# Advocate for the Devil

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# Advocate for the Devil



Dr. Shane D. Courtland received a Ph.D. in Philosophy from Tulane University and is currently employed as the Managing Director of Academic Relations at the Institute for Humane Studies. Previously, Dr. Courtland served as the Managing Director of the Center for Free Enterprise at West Virginia University.

Dr. Courtland's publications have appeared in American Catholic Philosophical Quarterly, Pacific Philosophical Quarterly,

Journal of Environmental Philosophy, Journal of Applied Philosophy, Journal of Mind and Behavior, Southwest Philosophy Review, Hobbes Studies, Reason Papers, Utilitas, Stanford Encyclopedia of Philosophy, Routledge's The Value and Limits of Academic Speech: Philosophical, Political, and Legal Perspectives, Routledge's American Philosophy: an Encyclopedia, Routledge's Political Ethics, Wiley-Blackwell's The Ultimate South Park and Philosophy Book, and Wiley-Blackwell's House of Cards and Philosophy. He also published an edited volume, Hobbesian Applied Ethics and Public Policy (Routledge 2017).

In the now classic *Kindly Inquisitors*, Jonathan Rauch writes, "It is not good to offend people, but it is necessary. A no offense society is a no knowledge society" (Rauch 1993, 126). Often when educators try to shield students from offensive views they compromise the attainment of knowledge. In this presentation Dr. Shane Courtland will examine one version of this problem. Namely, whether or not it is appropriate to silence such views because they call into question the dignity of marginalized groups.

With the assistance of principles laid down by John Stuart Mill, Dr. Courtland argues that it is epistemically problematic to silence the expression of these views. To know something requires that one be familiar with, and perhaps even seriously entertain, falsehoods. The failure to do so, would deny one knowledge, even including knowledge of the views one currently endorses (via a Millian dead dogma). Moreover, the elimination of racist viewpoints would also have the unintended consequence of undermining marginalized groups' (or their advocates') ability to disarm bigoted arguments.



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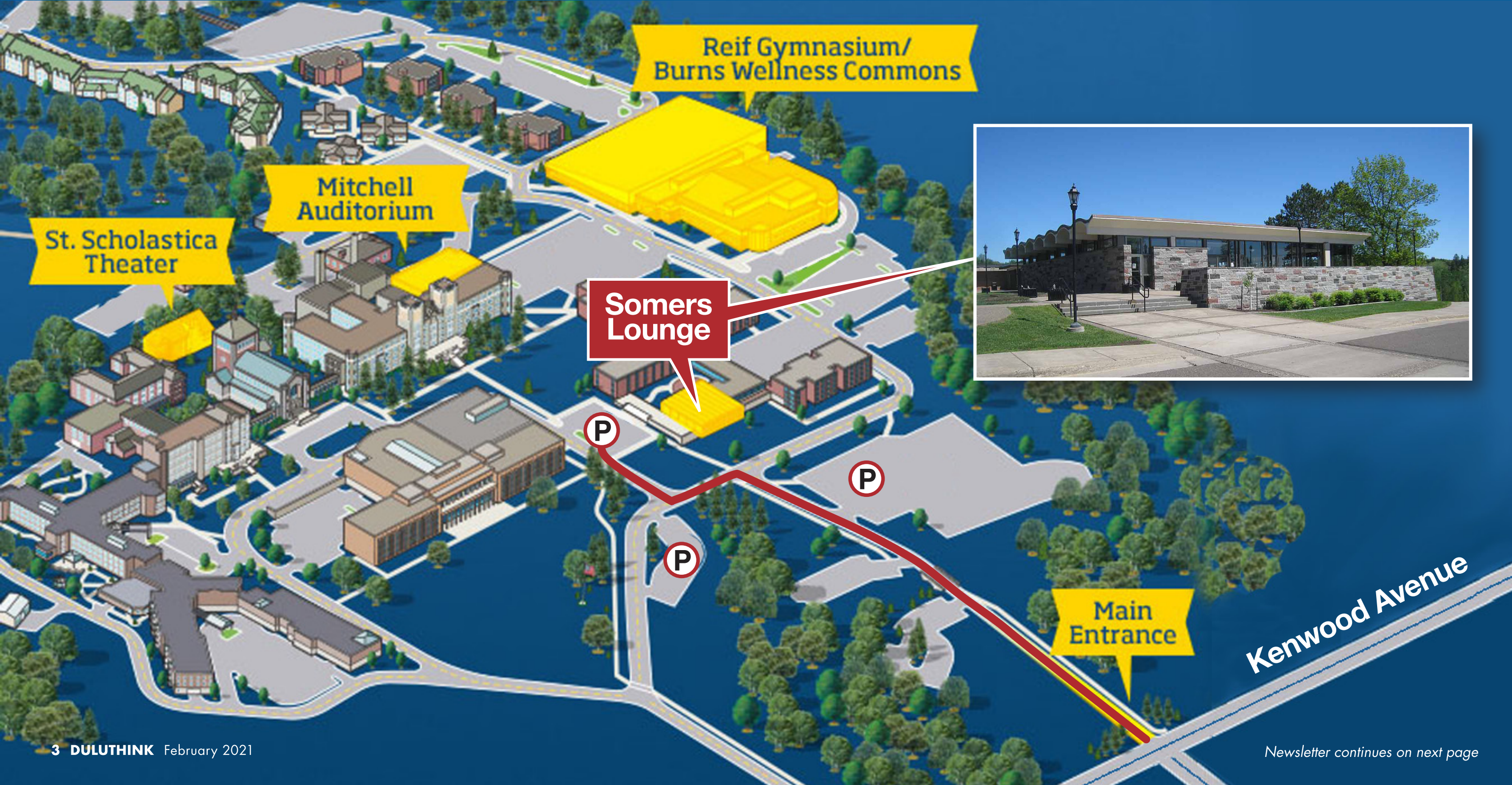
**SOCIAL DIRECTOR**

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# Directions to St. Scholastica's Somers Lounge, 1200 Kenwood Avenue





**LSF received a \$1000 Partnership grant from FFRF for the benefit of Safe Haven, and LSF members matched the grant with \$1000+ in donations.**

**Additional matching donations are welcome!**

Please send your check made out to *Safe Haven* to LSF's Treasurer Charles Gessert, 4929 Lester River Road, Duluth, MN 55804

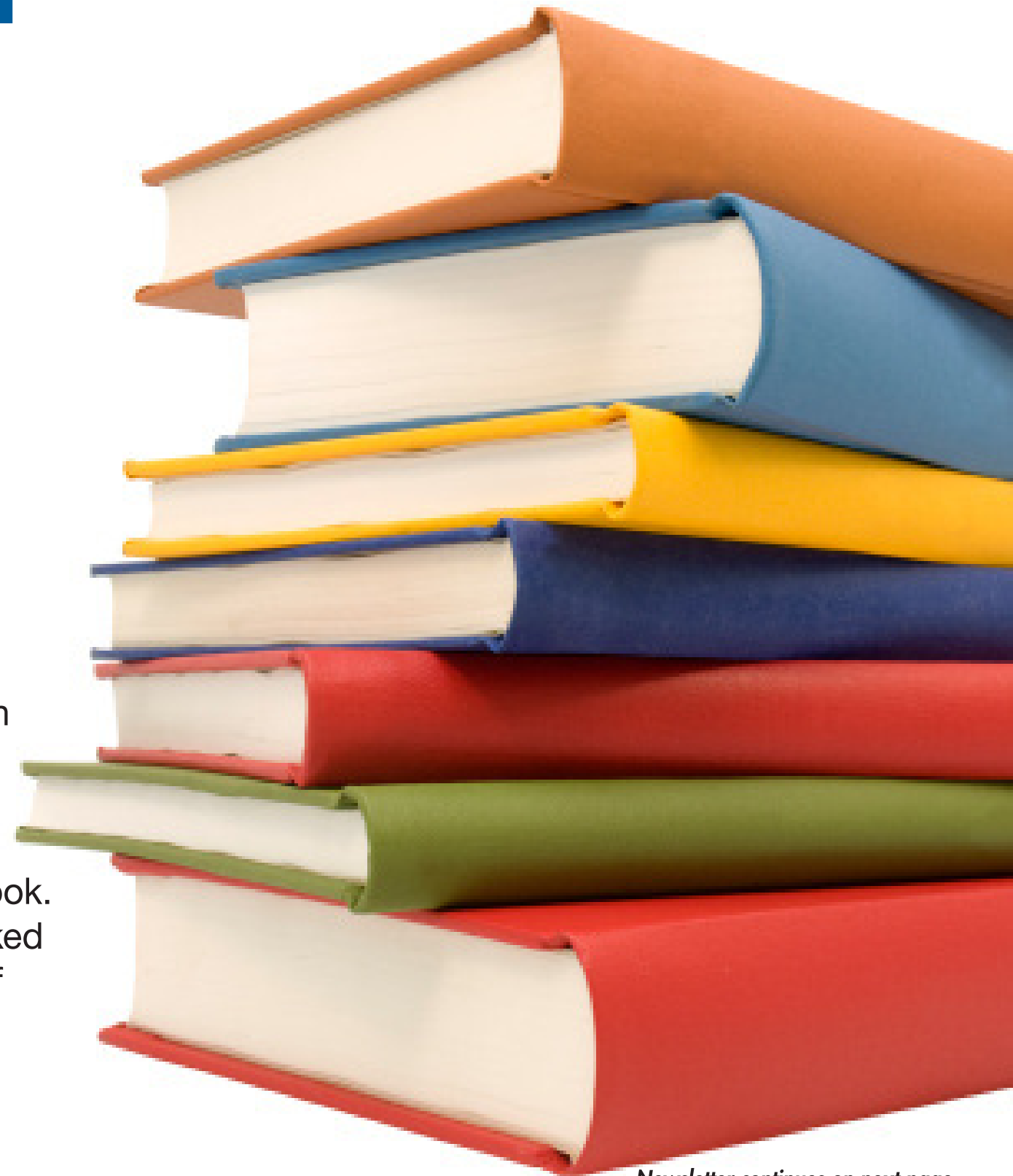
## Safe Haven's services

- 24-hour emergency shelter for victims of abuse and their children and pets
- 24-hour crisis hotline
- 218-728-6481 (Voice/TDD) 1-877-880-3094 (Toll-Free)
- Assistance in filing protective orders
- Court advocacy
- Safety planning
- Information and referrals
- Assistance with gaining housing, employment, education, and childcare
- Support for youth affected by domestic violence
- Professional training and community education
- Free education and support groups



# Freethought Library

**D**ue to the generous donation of a superb book collection, we have been able to set up a library for use by our members. **The collection can be viewed by using the Library link on our website, [LSFreethinkers.org](https://LSFreethinkers.org), or by going directly to the library at <https://LSFLibrary.librarika.com>.** You will have to become a library member in order to check books out. That can be done by sending a request to Linda Crumpton who will house the collection and act as librarian. **The library's email is [LakeSuperiorFreethinkersBooks@gmail.com](mailto:LakeSuperiorFreethinkersBooks@gmail.com).** Once you have an account, you can make arrangements to get the book. Requested books can be brought to our first Sunday program, or picked up or delivered in another way. We hope the collection will get a lot of use and will grow over time. If you have any questions, contact Linda using the library's email address.



Join us for

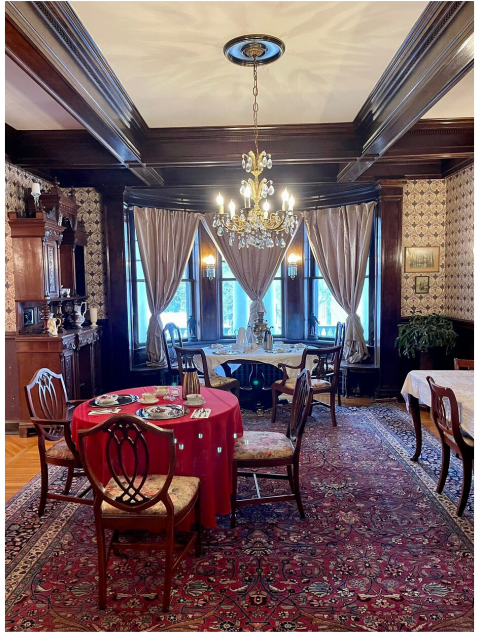
# Happy hour

4:00-6:00 pm Thursday, February 3rd  
at Mexico Lindo, Fitger's Brewery Complex



# FEBRUARY SOCIAL DINNER

JOIN US FEBRUARY 26TH AT 5:30PM FOR LSF'S SOCIAL DINNER AT THE MERRYWEATHER INN,  
2318 EAST FIRST STREET, DULUTH



# Next Pavilion Party Saturday February 26th



**Pavilion Parties continue on the fourth Saturday of each month at the home of our “Flounder”, Bill Van Druten.**

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Plan to arrive at 1pm. Bring a food item you have made, or maybe an interesting libation to share with other attendees. We'll talk and laugh at Dr. Van Druten's home: 2931 Greysolon Road in Duluth. Park anywhere on Greysolon Road but not on 30th Avenue!