

SATISFACTION GUARANTEED IN 2023



STEELE COUNTY FREE FAIR

VOL. 30 | NO. 1 | March 2023



★ Steely and Stella on the MOOve! ★

Steely and Stella have been on the MOOve this winter. They enjoyed meeting and greeting young and old at Tri-M Graphics Holiday Open House and were also in the Holiday Parades in Owatonna and Blooming Prairie. They love being ambassadors of the Steele County Free Fair!

Contact the fair office if you have a community event where Steely and Stella can promote the fair.



★ Cutting Horse Show Returns for 2023 ★

The National Cutting Horse Association (NCHA) will return to the Steele County Fairgrounds the weekends of

May 19-21, 2023

June 16-18, 2023

July 7-9, 2023

The rider controls the horses without reins, using only their legs and feet. They work the livestock like a border collie, separating a calf from the rest of the herd. Spectators are welcome to this free event in the Radel Pavilion.

Steele County Free Fair Barker

★ Kozelka's Korner ★



*with a goal of making our fair
an amazing EXPERIENCE.*

2022 wrapped up with the annual International Association of Fairs and Expositions (IAFE) Convention in Indianapolis, IN. At this convention, I was recognized for successfully completing the course of study and graduating from the Institute of Fair Management. This study began in 2018 and was personally and professionally challenging and rewarding. I, along with each of our board members and associate directors, continue to learn and work to make the Steele County Free Fair the best it can be.

Several members of our board were able to attend the IAFE, too. We were energized by the speakers and sessions and returned home with a goal of making our fair an amazing EXPERIENCE.

In January, many members of our board attended the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs State Convention in Bloomington, MN. EXPERIENCE was a common theme throughout this convention, too. January also found us sending out contracts to our many vendors.

We are thrilled to announce many of our entertainers in this edition of the Barker. Grandstand tickets for all shows are ON SALE NOW! on our website: www.scff.org NEW this year are VIP EXPERIENCE tickets for LOCASH with special guest Drake Milligan on Wednesday, Aug. 16; Hairball with special guest Strange Daze on Thursday, Aug. 17; Craig Morgan with special guest Ashley Barron on Friday, Aug. 18 and Bulls N Barrels with local Mutton Bustin' on Saturday, Aug. 19.

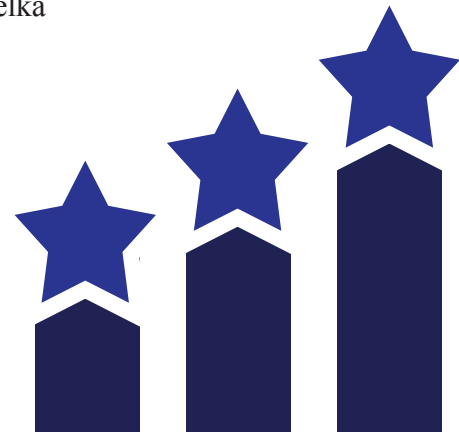
Get your friends and family together and plan the grandstand portion of your 2023 Steele County Free Fair EXPERIENCE today!

What makes all of this possible? Our dedicated Steele County Free Fair Board of Directors and Associate Directors and our many amazing sponsors. We absolutely would not have a fair without you! Thanks to our many sponsors who are already on board for "Satisfaction Guaranteed in 2023". If you are interested in joining the EXPERIENCE as a sponsor, please feel free to call - 507-451-5305 or email the fair office - steelecountyfreefair@scff.org or stop in. The coffee will be on and I'd love to visit with you.

See you at the fair,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Scott Kozelka".

Scott Kozelka
Manager



★ Plan Your 2023 Fair Experience! ★

The Board of Directors and Associate Directors of the Steele County Free Fair are excited to announce the following entertainers at the 2023 Steele County Free Fair!

Grandstand Features

Tuesday, August 15

★ **Antique Tractor Pull**

Wednesday, August 16



★ **LOCASH**
with special guest
Drake Milligan

LOCASH - Preston Brust and Chris Lucas - were named “country music’s iconic feel-good duo” by PEOPLE, BBR

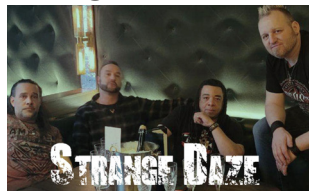
Music Group/BMG’s Wheelhouse Records and have been “hitting homers and serving up first-class songs”, as hailed by American Songwriter, since 2015.

Drake Milligan burst onto the national music stage with his third place finish on Season 17 of NBC’s America’s Got Talent.



Thursday, August 17

★ **Hairball**
with special guest
Strange Daze



Friday, August 18

★ **Craig Morgan**
with special guest **Ashley Barron**

Craig Morgan has made a name for himself as a country music icon, TV personality, celebrated outdoorsman and patriotic Army veteran. One of country music’s best loved artists, Morgan has charted 25 songs on Billboard and thrills massive crowds with signature hits including, “Redneck Yacht Club”, “International Harvester” and the faith-filled tribute to his son, Jerry - “The Father, My Son, And the Holy Ghost”.

We welcome Ashley Barron back to the Steele County Free Fair by popular demand. Ashley Barron embraces the independent and powerful aura in her writing and music. Her newest single, “The Wind”, is an encouraging anthem to stay strong and keep going when life gets difficult.



Saturday, August 19

★ **Bulls N Barrels** with
local **Mutton Bustin’**



Sunday, August 20

★ **Demolition Derby**

★ VIP Experience ★

NEW this Year-VIP Experience ticket for Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday Grandstand Events. A limit of 150 tickets will be available.

Price for VIP Experience tickets is as follows:

LOCASH with special guest Drake Milligan	\$100
Hairball with special guest Strange Daze	\$75
Craig Morgan with special guest Ashley Barron	\$100
Bulls N Barrels with Local Mutton Bustin’	\$50

Your VIP Experience ticket includes:

- ★ Infield Parking
- ★ Ticket to the Event
- ★ Access to the VIP Tent
- ★ Light Hors d’oeuvres
- ★ Beverage Tickets
- ★ Early admission to Grandstand

★ Beer Garden and Stages ★

Beer Garden Evening Entertainment



Tuesday, August 15
Johnny Holm



Wednesday, August 16
IV Play



Thursday, August 17
Jacuzzi Puma



Friday, August 18
Shirts & Skins



Saturday, August 19
Travis Thamert



Sunday, August 20
The White Keys

★ **United Prairie Bank Stage** ★
Evening Entertainment

Tuesday, August 15: **Branded**
 Wednesday, August 16: **Tim Sigler**
 Thursday, August 17: **The Whitesidewalls**
 Friday, August 18: **Transit Authority**
 Saturday, August 19: **Royal Emperors**
 Sunday, August 20: **Owatonna High School Football and Cheerleader Rally**

Check out the website at scff.org for the complete United Prairie Bank Stage schedule.

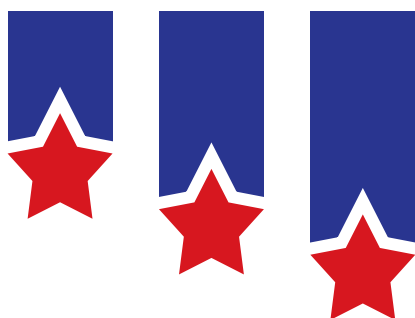
★ **New Entertainers** ★
Throughout the Grounds



Thorni Ridge Exotics featuring a petting zoo, camel and pony rides.



The High Flying Pages Thrill Show performances daily throughout the fair.



The Electrifying Magic of Jay Mattioli performances daily throughout the fair.

★ The United Way ★ and the SCFF

Thanks to the United Way of Steele County for their help in the grandstand. The Steele County Free Fair is thankful for our partnership. Pictured are Steele County Free Fair Board Member Jim Abbe presenting a donation to United Way of Steele County Director Annette Duncan.



★ Blizzard Wizard ★

Check out this picture of the winning snow plow... Blizzard Wizard! It was named by Ranae Seykora from Hibbing, MN and is driven by Loren Jensen. It's been busy this winter. Let's hope it will soon be parked and spring will be here!

★ And the Winners Are... ★

Congratulations to the Steele County Free Fair and our outstanding volunteer photographer, Tim Lueck, for winning the following communication contest awards at the Minnesota Federation of County Fairs Convention:



MN AGRI Grant award winner
Southwest Dairy Mobile Classroom



MN Legacy Grant award winner
Hot Glass Academy



Special Event at the Fair
Midwest All-Star Wrestling



The Steele County Free Fair brochure, featuring the smiling face of Rory Bailey, daughter of Brooke Limoseth and Matt Bailey of Owatonna, was the winner of the brochure contest at the convention, too. Thanks to the graphic design talents of Tami Roberts. Tami has designed the Steele County Free Fair brochure since 2001. We are so thankful for her years of dedicated service to the fair as Tami has stepped down from this role.

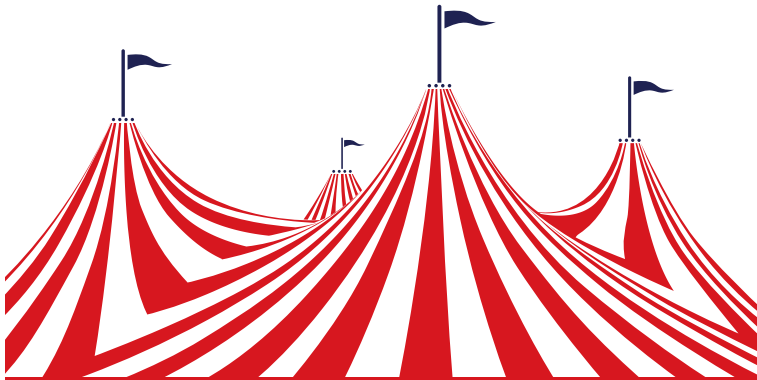
The Steele County Free Fair welcomes graphic designer Jessica Johannes, Little Sugar Designs, who will be designing the brochure for the 2023 fair where, "Satisfaction Guaranteed in 2023" is the theme.





Steele County Free Fair
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Owatonna, MN 55060

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Join Us This Year
August 15-20, 2023

★ scff.org ★

★ Memorials and Donations ★

Memorials Received:

In memory of Jim Hougas - Friend of the Fair
Sharon Klein
Scott & Gayle Kozelka

Donations Received:

Tim & Deb Art
Dawn Ebeling
David & Cindy Melby
Keith Stark

Benches:

In honor of Luverne Wanous
In memory of Beverly Krause - Friend of the Fair
Given by her family

★ SCFF Office Information ★

PO Box 650
www.scff.org | (507) 451-5305
steelecountyfreefair@scff.org

If you would like to receive your Barker Newsletter by e-mail, please contact us and we will be happy to add you to the list.

