

# Adventures to Explore in 2024

## August 13-18



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## ★ Kozelka's Korner ★

The theme of the 2024 Steele County Free Fair is “Adventures to Explore in 2024” – and yes, this year has been an adventure. A *daily* adventure!

The pace around the fairgrounds is moving into high gear as our awesome team prepares for the 2024 edition of the SCFF. Our grounds look different with the changes at the south end of the infield and the addition of the permanent home of the NEW Steele Saloon! Buildings are being cleaned and prepared for exhibits, and the landscaping and flowers on the grounds are amazing!

Make sure to check our website at [scff.org](http://scff.org) to get the latest information on the entertainment you'll find at the fair. Our team has worked extra hard to ensure this year's special events and concerts make each day of the fair an extra special experience for everyone! From the grandstand shows to the free events on our stages, you'll find something fun for every age. We have some new sponsors for our stages this year – the Fair Square Stage is now the “Wenger Fair Square Stage,” and we've also added the “Federated Pavilion” featuring a stage and viewing area out of the hot sun for our fairgoers. And

don't forget, there's always tons of fun to be had at the Townsquare Media “Reseland Stage” and the Village of Yesteryear stage.

We couldn't have the fair we've become famous for without each and every one of our 200 sponsors, and you can help thank them by supporting and patronizing their businesses all year long. Thank you to our dedicated SCFF board, staff and countless volunteers. The Steele County Free Fair is known across the country because of the boundless dedication and generosity of everyone involved, and that's why I'm so proud to be part of the SCFF team!

On your mark....get set....here we go! Have a great and safe summer and **I will SEE YOU AT THE FAIR!!**

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Scott Kozelka'.

Scott Kozelka  
SCFF Manager

## Steele County Free Fair Barker

## ★ Fun Fair Facts ★

• A huge thank-you goes out to **Principal Kory Kath and his crew at Owatonna High School**. As the staff was moving into the new high school, many staffers believed the equipment they were leaving behind could benefit others – like the SCFF office. Kath orchestrated the donation of gently used office furniture, including desks, credenzas, and filing cabinets. “This was an amazing gift, and we are so appreciative,” said Manager Scott Kozelka. “The new furniture has allowed us to streamline our office space here at the fair and offered us a better way to use the limited space we have.”



• Did you notice the beautiful **blue flowerpots** adorning the Muckle Building and Mother’s Rest? They were donated to the SCFF earlier this summer by **Grant and Denise Duffy in loving memory of Denise’s father Jim Lage**. Many thanks to Michelle Warner and her crew for all they do each summer to keep all of the flower pots on the grounds watered, trimmed and looking their best!



• At the June meeting, the Fair Board was honored to receive the “**Most Generous Workplace**” award from the Steele County United Way.



• One of the best bargains at the fair is membership in the **Steele County Agricultural Society**! For \$5.00 per person members receive this quarterly fair newsletter, The Barker, and have voting rights at the annual meeting in November. **RENEW YOUR MEMBERSHIP TODAY** by stopping in the Steele County Free Fair Office open Monday – Friday from 8:00 am – 4:00 pm and from 8:00 am – 8:00 pm during the fair, August 13th – 18th. Memberships for 2024-25 must be purchased by 8 PM Sunday, Aug. 18, 2024.

• The **Muckle Museum** will feature the **development and construction of the new Steele Saloon** and will also include everything you’ve ever wanted to know about “Ye Olde Beer Garden.” This fun display will be available for viewing from: 3 – 9 PM Tuesday, 10 AM – 9 PM Wednesday - Saturday, and 10 AM – 8 PM Sunday of Fair Week. Stop and soak in the history of two of the most hoppin’ spots on the grounds!

★ **SAVE THE DATE** ★  
**The 2025 Steele County Free Fair**  
**will be August 12-17, 2025!**

Two long-time fair favorites are observing milestone anniversaries this year. **B & D Greek Foods** are celebrating their **40th year** with the Steele County Free Fair, and quite possibly have spent those years in the same location in Fair Square Park! Owner and Chef Dimitri Giannou says the menu hasn’t changed since he first started at the fair. “You’ve seen the lines at my tent. I don’t have time to make anything else,” he laughed. B & D’s specialty is the Greek-seasoned pork kebab. Giannou estimates he uses 30,000 pounds of pork each summer – with a third of that used just at the SCFF!



Although **Grace’s Mexican Food stand** has been at the SCFF since the early 1970’s, this year marks the **30th year** that Cindy Nachos have been on the menu (and today, the **ONLY** menu item!). Cindy Blazek said her “mom (Grace McGuire) was super happy on the Saturday of the first year at the fair when she made fifty dollars!” Cindy Nachos were reluctantly added to the fair menu after Blazek had begged her mother for five or six years to add them. “She didn’t think they’d go,” Blazek quipped.

# ★ So Many Adventures to Explore in 2024! ★

Don't miss a thing! Save this guide and bring it to the fair with you!

## Indoor Vendors and Exhibits – Four Seasons Centre, Great Outdoors Center & Muckle Museum

Tuesday, Aug. 13	3:00 pm – 9:00 pm
Wednesday, Aug. 14	10:00 am – 9:00 pm
Thursday, Aug. 15	10:00 am – 9:00 pm
Friday, Aug. 16	10:00 am – 9:00 pm
Saturday, Aug. 17	10:00 am – 9:00 pm
Sunday, Aug. 18	10:00 am – 8:00 pm

## Outdoor Vendors

Tuesday, Aug. 13	3:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Wednesday, Aug. 14	11:00 am – 10:00 pm
Thursday, Aug. 15	11:00 am – 10:00 pm
Friday, Aug. 16	11:00 am – 10:00 pm
Saturday, Aug. 17	11:00 am – 10:00 pm
Sunday, Aug. 18	11:00 am – 9:30 pm

## Food Vendors - outdoor

Tuesday, Aug. 13	11:00 am – 10:30 pm
Wednesday, Aug. 14	11:00 am – 10:30 pm
Thursday, Aug. 15	11:00 am – 10:30 pm
Friday, Aug. 16	11:00 am – 11:30 pm
Saturday, Aug. 17	11:00 am – 11:30 pm
Sunday, Aug. 18	11:00 am – 9:30 pm

## Steele County History Center

Tuesday, Aug. 13	4:30 pm – 7:30 pm
Wednesday, Aug. 14	10:30 am – 7:30 pm
Thursday, Aug. 15	10:30 am – 7:30 pm

## Ye Old Beer Garden

Tuesday, Aug. 13	Noon – 12:30 am
Wednesday, Aug. 14	Noon – 12:30 am
Thursday, Aug. 15	Noon – 12:30 am
Friday, Aug. 16	Noon – 1:00 am
Saturday, Aug. 17	Noon – 1:00 am
Sunday, Aug. 18	Noon – 10:00 pm

## Steele Saloon

Tuesday, Aug. 13	2:00 pm – 10:30 pm
Wednesday, Aug. 14	2:00 pm – 10:30 pm
Thursday, Aug. 15	2:00 pm – 10:30 pm
Friday, Aug. 16	11:00 am – 11:00 pm
Saturday, Aug. 17	9:00 am – 11:00 pm
Sunday, Aug. 18	11:00 am – 7:00 pm

## GoldStar Midway

Tuesday, Aug. 13	5:00 pm – 11:00 pm
Wednesday, Aug. 14	Noon – 11:00 pm
Thursday, Aug. 15	Noon – 11:00 pm
Friday, Aug. 16	Noon – 11:30 pm
Saturday, Aug. 17	Noon – 11:30 pm
Sunday, Aug. 18	Noon - 9:00 pm

## House Auto Group Auto Museum – featuring THUNDERBIRDS

Tuesday, Aug. 13	5:00 pm – 10:00 pm
Wednesday, Aug. 14	11:00 am – 10:00 pm
Thursday, Aug. 15	11:00 am – 10:00 pm
Friday, Aug. 16	11:00 am – 10:00 pm
Saturday, Aug. 17	11:00 am – 10:00 pm
Sunday, Aug. 18	Noon – 8:00 pm

## Village of Yesteryear

Tuesday, Aug. 13	5:00 pm – 8:00 pm
Wednesday, Aug. 14	11:00 am – 8:00 pm
Thursday, Aug. 15	11:00 am – 8:00 pm
Friday, Aug. 16	11:00 am – 8:00 pm
Saturday, Aug. 17	11:00 am – 8:00 pm
Sunday, Aug. 18	Noon – 5:00 pm

Friday, Aug. 16	10:30 am – 7:30 pm
Saturday, Aug. 17	10:30 am – 7:30 pm
Sunday, Aug. 18	11:30 – 5:00 pm

IV Play at 8:30 pm  
Branded at 8:30 pm  
Smokescreen at 8:30 pm  
Swerve at 3:00 pm; Good for Gary at 8:30 pm  
Led Penny at 3:00 pm; Rough House Rox at 8:30 pm  
Dan Stursa Band at 1:00 pm; Bryce Leppert at 6:30 pm

Grand Opening Celebration – 6:00 pm  
Midwest All-Star Wrestling – 7:00 pm  
Todd Utpadel performing 5-7 PM – “Tips for Cancer”

Bloody Mary Bar 9 am – 1 pm | Cornhole Tournament starting at 11 am  
Bloody Mary Bar 11 am until sold out!

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## DAIKIN Grandstand Stage

Tuesday, Aug. 13	5:00 pm	FFA Alumni Antique Tractor Pull – Grandstand Infield – East side
Wednesday, Aug. 14	7:00 pm	Hailey Whitters with special guest Adam Calvert
Thursday, Aug. 15	7:30 pm	Snake Oil
Friday, Aug. 16	7:00 pm	Chris Janson with special guest Mason Dixon Line
Saturday, Aug. 17	7:30 pm	Bulls-N-Barrels with Mutton Bustin'
Sunday, Aug. 18	2:00 pm	Demolition Derby



Check the Steele County Free Fair website, [www.scff.org](http://www.scff.org), for entertainment and times on the Wenger Fair Square Stage, the KRFO-Townsquare Media Elmer Reseland Stage, the Village of Yesteryear Stage and for family friendly fun throughout the grounds.

## Special Services

- Handicap scooters and wheelchair rentals are available starting at 10:30 am daily at the Elm St. entrance through VistaMobility. Please visit [www.vistamobility.net](http://www.vistamobility.net) or call 262-677-3696 for more information or to reserve.
- Courtesy Carts provide a FREE shuttle on the grounds for those in need from  
3 PM – 9 PM on Tuesday, Aug. 13; Noon – 9 PM Wednesday, Aug. 14;  
9 AM – 9 PM Thursday, Aug. 15; and Noon – 9 PM Friday, Aug. 16 through Sunday, Aug. 18.
- Quiet Zone and First Aid are available in the Community Building on the North end of the grounds near the Elm St. entrance.
- ATM machines are available throughout the grounds.

## ★ Mega Ride Tickets to Go on Sale ★

The always popular Mega Ride ticket, good for unlimited rides on the GoldStar Midway throughout the fair, will be on sale exclusively at Owatonna Hy-Vee from July 15 until 5:00 PM on Tuesday, August 13, the opening day of the fair.

**Mega Ride tickets are \$60.00 and can be purchased from 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM daily at the Owatonna Hy-Vee Customer Service counter.**

How many Mega Ride tickets will be sold this year? Last year 6,453 thrill-seekers enjoyed unlimited rides throughout the fair!



## STEELE COUNTY



## FREE FAIR

**AUGUST 13 - 18  
OWATONNA, MN**

## • RIDE SPECIALS •

- Tue. Power 96 Night Two-Buck Tuesday!**  
All rides \$2.00 each ~ 5:00-11:00PM
- Wed. Horizon Eye Care Professionals Kids' Day**  
Noon – 5 PM ~ \$25.00
- Thur. Senior Citizen (62+) Special Noon – 5 PM**  
Ferris Wheel or Carousel for ONE COUPON!  
**Culver's Moonlight Madness 5 – 11 PM**  
\$30.00 wristband for unlimited rides  
(\$27.00 with Culver's Coupon)
- Fri. North Risk Partners**  
**TPS Insurance Family Fun Day!**  
Noon – 5 PM ~ \$25.00
- Sat. Profinium, Inc. Ride Day**  
Noon - 5 PM ~ \$30.00  
**Chance to win 1 of 8 bicycles** courtesy of GoldStar Amusements
- Sun. Hy-Vee Family Day**  
Noon – 9 PM ~ \$30.00



## ★ New Yummies for our Tummys!! ★

### Chili Cheese Corndog

**Vendor:** Rosenthal Concessions, LLC

**Description:** Hand dipped all beef corndog split lengthwise, then filled with chili, topped with cheese and onions.

### MinneCookieDough Pie

**Vendor:** Minneapple Pie

**Description:** Warm chocolate chip cookie dough inside a flaky pie crust that is fried to perfection. Served with vanilla or cinnamon ice cream.

### Poutine Burger

**Vendor:** DeAnna's Donut Burgers

**Description:** A flame grilled burger topped with fresh fries, cheese curds and delicious gravy.

### Halo Sundae Churro ★ NEW VENDOR

**Vendor:** Mami Churro's & Creamery

**Description:** Handcrafted halo shaped churro with assorted toppings served with soft serve ice cream.

### Brat Mac and Cheese

**Vendor:** Minnesota's Original Brat Dogs

**Description:** Gourmet white cheese macaroni topped with Steve's Meat Market Brats and more cheese!

### Apple Fries

**Vendor:** Minnesota's Original Brat Dogs

**Description:** Lightly fried apples sprinkled with cinnamon and sugar, served with caramel dipping sauce.

### Chicken Curry Puff

**Vendor:** Rockin Asian Food Truck

**Description:** Potato, chicken, peas and coconut milk inside a puff pastry.

### SGI Burger

**Vendor:** Come & Get It

**Description:** Bacon Cheddar Cheese Burger with corned beef, pastrami and Swiss cheese. Topped with thousand island dressing, homemade pickles, remoulade sauce and mustard.

### Loaded Lattes ★ NEW VENDOR

**Vendor:** Just Take the Cake Too

**Description:** Iced or hot campfire or turtle mocha loaded with a donut, whipped cream and other treats.

### Photo Cookies ★ NEW VENDOR

**Vendor:** Just Take the Cake Too-Cookies

**Description:** Fun photos taken on site and printed on our delicious sugar cookies.

### Flamin Cheetos Beef Stuffed Potato Ball

**Vendor:** La Borinqua

**Description:** Seasoned ground beef stuffed in mashed potatoes, breaded with ground hot Cheetos then fried and coated in more hot Cheetos.

### Pork Shoulder Panini

**Vendor:** La Borinqua

**Description:** Pork shoulder panini with roasted bell pepper, g-ma sauce.

### Moes Favorite Philly

**Vendor:** MoeGeos

**Description:** Teriyaki Chicken Philly with sauteed onions, Swiss and American cheese on a sour dough hoagie.

### Famous Cachapa ★ NEW VENDOR

**Vendor:** Noris Cuisine

**Description:** Gluten Free, sweet corn pancakes filled with handcrafted cheese, slow cooked roasted pork and garnished with our house green salsa and cream cheese.

### Our Burger ★ NEW VENDOR

**Vendor:** Wahlburgers

**Description:** Beef burger with government cheese, lettuce, tomato, onion, pickles, and Paul's signature Wahl Sauce.

### Holy Roasters ★ NEW VENDOR

Purveyors of roasted nuts, including almonds, cashews, pecans and peanuts. Products are gluten-free, contain no trans fats and are available in 25+ flavors.

### DeAnna's Apple Dumplings ★ NEW VENDOR

Featured item is their Apple Dumpling Sundae. They also service ice cream and coffee.

## ★ Spotlight on Sponsors ★

We are proud to announce two new sponsors for two very important spaces here at the SCFF. Welcome to **Wenger Corporation** as the new Wenger Fair Square Stage sponsor, and **Federated Insurance** as sponsor of the SCFF Federated Pavilion. The Federated Pavilion adds both seating and shade on the north end of the grounds. Both companies are respected locally for their pride

in community and their giving spirit. Recognized around the world and headquartered here in Owatonna,

**Wenger Corporation** provides innovative, high-quality products and solutions for music and theatre education, performing arts and athletic equipment. Founded in 1904 in Owatonna, **Federated Mutual Insurance Company** is a national insurance and risk management organization that serves the property, casualty, and life insurance needs of clients in select industries.

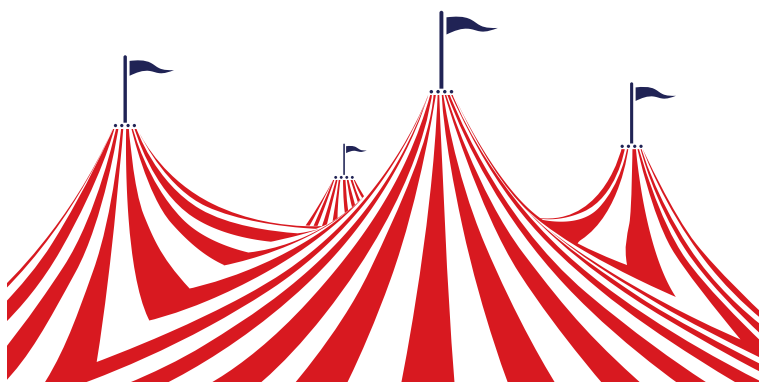
A special welcome to additional new sponsors, including Country Inn & Suites, Duke Rentals, Dwell Realty Group, Home 2 Suites, Hubbell House, Keen Bank, Life Fitness, Olmsted Medical Center, Sanco Equipment, Steele-Waseca Cooperative Electric, Tom's Pro Glass, Travel Leaders of Owatonna, Union Home Mortgage, Viracon, Welker Custom Homes, and Wencil Construction.





Steele County Free Fair  
PO Box 650  
Owatonna, MN 55060

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Join Us This Year  
August 13-18, 2024

★ [scff.org](http://scff.org) ★

## ★ Memorials and Donations ★

### Donations Received:

David & Cindy Melby

In honor of Scott & Gayle Kozelka's  
40th Wedding Anniversary

Scott & Gayle Kozelka  
Bruce & Rhonda Bennett

### Memorials Received:

In memory of Jim Lage –  
Father of Denise Duffy  
Muckle Building Flower Planters-  
Grant & Denise Duffy

In memory of Harold & Deloris Schutte  
– Friends of the Fair

Allen & Randee Radel  
Jerome Spindler

In memory of Lisa Hanson –  
Daughter of Wayne and Grace Steele  
Glen & Cheryl Meger  
Bruce & Rhonda Bennett

In memory of Jim Klein-Husband of  
Sharon Klein

Bruce & Rhonda Bennett  
Bruce & BJ Busho  
Grant & Denise Duffy  
Sandy Jirele  
Scott & Gayle Kozelka

In memory of Karl Steckelberg –  
Friend of the Fair

Bruce & Rhonda Bennett

In memory of Glenda Janning –  
Wife of Ron Janning

Sandy Jirele

In memory of Connie Wocelka –  
Friend of the Fair

Bruce & BJ Busho

In memory of John Bahe –  
Friend of the Fair

Jerome Spindler

## ★ "Best of the Fair" ★ Food Competition

One hundred 2024 SCFF food vendors were invited to craft new menu items for this NEW food competition. Of those original entries, 14 dishes were selected to be featured as new food items for the 2024 fair, and five of those 14 items will be named "Best of the Fair."

**Local celebrity judges will taste and select the five "Best of the Fair" winners Tuesday, Aug. 13, 3:00pm on the Wenger Fair Square Stage.** You won't want to miss this exciting new competition!