

VOL. 31 | NO. 1 | APRIL 2024



\star Kozelka's Korner 🖈



Our SCFF theme promises "Adventures to Explore in **2024**", and yes, the adventures have started! It will be a very busy summer at the Steele County Fairgrounds. The NEW Steele Saloon building project is underway and will be a GREAT new attraction and addition to our fair. Our Steele Saloon Director, Doug Meier, has taken the lead on this project and has done a great job -- please thank him when you see him. I would also like to thank our AWESOME donors and sponsors who are making this building happen. The Whiskey Wall in the saloon is full and we have a waiting list for another wall, or maybe even something new, so stay in touch. We are also shortening the south end of the infield to add space for all events on the grounds. The City of Owatonna will also be adding a new trail on the north side of 18th Street so it will all fit together and be a wonderful update to the grounds.

Now... on to the part you've been waiting for! We are ALL excited to announce many of our entertainers in this edition of the Barker, including all our free stages, the Beer Garden and our 2024 AMAZING grandstand lineup. Get your friends and family together and plan the grandstand portion of your 2024 SCFF EXPERIENCE today! And don't forget there are also more than 150 FREE events to enjoy throughout the week at this year's fair.

PLEASE remember to thank the over 200 amazing sponsors who have helped us make this Fair and these new projects happen. Also, thank you to our SCFF Board of Directors, our Associate Directors and our staff for everything you do to make our fair the best it can be. If you're not yet a sponsor and would like to join the "SCFF Experience," please feel free to call - 507-451-5305 or email the

fair office – steelecountyfreefair@scff.org or stop in. My door is open, and I would love to visit with you.



SEE YOU AT THE FAIR,

Scott Kozelka – SCFF Manager

Steele County Free Fair Barker

🛨 Beer Garden Stage 🛨







★ BRANDED ★ Wednesday, August 14



★ SMOKESCREEN ★Thursday, August 15







★ GOOD FOR GARY ★Friday, August 16



★ LED PENNY ★
Saturday, August 17



ROUGH HOUSE
BAND
Saturday, August 17



★ DAN STRUSA ★ BANDSunday, August 18





★ Grandstand Features for 2024 ★

The Board of Directors and Associate Directors of the Steele County Free Fair are excited to announce the following entertainers at the 2024 Steele County Free Fair!



FFA Alumni Antique Tractor Pull

Tuesday, August 13



She's toured with Luke Bryan, Eric Church, Shania Twain and Jason Aldean – and she's coming to Owatonna as the Wednesday Night 2024 Grandstand Show headliner! The Steele County Free Fair is eagerly anticipating this show from rising country music star Hailey Whitters.

Born and raised in Iowa, Whitters' life-long dream was to become a country music star, which led her to Nashville at the tender age of 17. She credits Trisha Yearwood, Alan Jackson and The Dixie Chicks as her biggest musical influences. More than a decade later, her debut radio single "Everything She Ain't" skyrocketed her into country's mainstream and earned her the ACM New Female Artist of the Year award in 2023. Fueled by a life-long love of The Dixie Chicks, Whitters' voice has often been compared to that of Dixie lead Natalie Maines.

Before gaining favor as a solo artist, Whitters wrote songs for Martina McBride, Little Big Town and Alan Jackson.



Snake Oil

Thursday, August 15

Area rockers are guaranteed an epic experience at Thursday's Grandstand Show when Snake Oil cuts loose as the main event! Known for their uncanny ability to impersonate 70s, 80s and 90s favorite bands, Snake Oil weaves spectacular costumes, hilarious audience interaction and an array of incredible special effects into a show that regularly brings audiences to its feet!

Snake Oil has shared concert stages with The Beach Boys, Foghat, Whitesnake, Cheap Trick, Starship and other rock and roll legends, and its cast of performers are experienced professionals, having toured the world with various musical projects and notable bands. All members are sought-after studio musicians and have logged thousands of hours lending their talents to the top names in the rock business. Frequently advertised as a "rock circus," Snake Oil will dazzle fair-goers with spot-on performances and portrayals of their favorite stars, including Alice Cooper, Ozzy Osbourne, Heart, Joan Jett, Queen, Journey, Led Zeppelin, ACDC, The Foo Fighters and more! Don't miss this spectacular show!



Grandstand Tickets are available for sale starting **TODAY!** Please visit our site:

scff.org/tickets

to reserve your spots for the 2024 Steele County Free Fair!

★ Grandstand Features for 2024 ★

The Board of Directors and Associate Directors of the Steele County Free Fair are excited to announce the following entertainers at the 2024 Steele County Free Fair!







Chris Janson

Friday, August 16

The Steele County Free Fair is pleased and excited to announce Chris Janson as its headlining performer for the 2024 Friday night Grandstand Show. According to Rolling Stone, Janson is a "live legacy in the making." A multi-Platinum recording artist, Janson is a celebrated entertainer, a talented instrumentalist, and has captured top music industry awards for his singing and song-writing abilities.

Janson's award-winning work includes "Drunk Girl" (ACM Video of the Year), "Fix a Drink" (#1 Platinum) and fourtime Platinum smash hit "Buy Me a Boat." In the summer of 2023, Janson released his fifth studio album, "The Outlaw Side of Me," which includes his fifth #1 career single, "All I Need is You."

From the outlaw to the rowdy...romantic to full-throttle, Janson is bound to delight fair-goers of all ages with his own "riveting style that makes you wonder if he's the love child of Loretta Lynn and Mick Jagger." (People Magazine).

Bulls N Barrels with Mutton Bustin'

Saturday, August 17



Demolition Derby Sunday, August 18



🖈 VIP Experience 🚖

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:

> **Hailey Whitters** \$100 **Snake Oil** \$75 **Chris Janson** \$100 Bulls N Barrels with Local Mutton Bustin'

> > 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

★ Wenger Fair Square Stage 🖈

Senior Citizen

Tuesday, August 13

5:00 PM Flag Raising
Ceremony
6:00 PM Owatonna
Community Band
7:30 PM Ali Gray's Country

Jamboree

Thursday, August 15

11:30 AM

Recognition
12:00 PM Charlie Sticha Band
2:30 PM iPolka Band
5:00 PM LP and the 45's
8:00 PM The Whitesidewalls

Saturday, August 17

11:30 AM Curt Copeland
1:15 PM Jeremy Poland & Lantz Dale
3:00 PM JoJo Green
5:00 PM Charity Auction
5:30 PM Harrison Street Band
8:00 PM Little Chicago

Wednesday, August 14

11:30 AM | Melissa Schulz 2:15 PM | Blue Dirt Road 5:00 PM | AZBY 8:00 PM | Power of 10

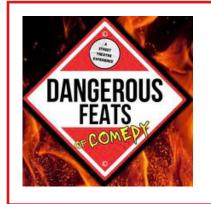
Friday, August 16

11:00 AM Rad Zoo
12:00 PM Dan Stursa Band
2:45 PM Mark Cameron Band
5:30 PM Just Friends
8:00 PM Chad Johnson and the
MN Transplants

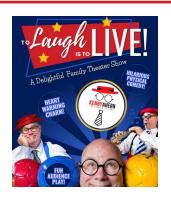
Sunday, August 18

11:00 AM Community Church Service
12:15 PM Taekwondo
1:15 PM Eclipse
4:00 PM Generation Gap
6:30 PM United Way
7:00 PM Football/Cheerleader Rally

★ Entertainment Throughout the Grounds ★





















\bigstar Memorials and Donations \bigstar

Donations Received:

Tim & Deb Arlt
James Hermel
Mary Larson
Owatonna Fire Protection Corporation
Richard & Barbara Paulson
Tom Shea
Joe & Ev Stransky

Memorials Received:

In memory of Darlene "Dolly" Abbe - Mother of Jim Abbe Bruce & Rhonda Bennett Grant & Denise Duffy

In memory of Ron Peterson - Brother of Vickie Deml Bruce & Rhonda Bennett Grant & Denise Duffy In memory of Elmer Reseland Schroder Concessions – Brad & Marcia Schroder

In memory of Jim Gleason Schroder Concessions – Brad & Marcia Schroder

In memory of Dick Reinhardt
Schroder Concessions – Brad & Marcia Schroder

In memory of Roosevelt & Mildred Ditlevson - Parents of Mark Ditlevson Richard & Kathy Hills

In memory of Merrill Jensen - Friend of the Fair David & Cindy Melby

In memory of Shirley Duffy - Mother-in-law of Denise Duffy Dan & Vickie Deml

★ 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.

