

Two graduates plan to pursue the arts

Crossing chats with scholarship winners, Page 2E

Movie features cast, crew from Brainerd area

"Trust Me" will debut Friday in Minneapolis, Page 5E



John Hansen
Entertainment Editor
(218) 855-5863
john.hansen@brainerddispatch.com



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www.brainerddispatch.com

HERE'S YOUR GUIDE TO THE ...

SUMMERTIME

BLUES AND ROCK, COUNTRY, REGGAE, FOLK, BLUEGRASS AND POLKA

BY JOHN HANSEN | ENTERTAINMENT EDITOR

Sure, summer's technically nine days away, but it's never too early to make your summer music festival plans.

The Dispatch's guide to 23 festivals in the area and region is bookended by two events that made impressive debuts last year.

Moondance Jammin' Country Fest continues to prove it's every bit the equal of WE Fest, booking big-name headliners like Gary Allan, Gretchen Wilson and Trace Adkins.

And September's Cowboy & Hobo Days, now three days long, plans to become bigger and better.

Here's your guide to those festivals and the 21 in between.



Gretchen Wilson will perform at 11 p.m. June 20 at Moondance Jammin' Country Fest near Walker.



Brainerd band The District will headline the American Celebration July 4 at Adamson Field in Brainerd.



Sara Evans will perform at 9 p.m. June 20 at Moondance Jammin' Country Fest near Walker.

Moondance Jammin' Country Fest

When: June 19-21.

Where: Moondance Ranch near Walker.

Genre: Country.

Stages: Three.

Main stage:

June 19 – Wayne Renn Band (3 p.m.), Rockie Lynn (4 p.m.), Jack Ingram (5:30 p.m.), Diamond Rio (7 p.m.), Jo Dee Messina (9 p.m.), Gary Allan (11 p.m.).

June 20 – TelluRide (3 p.m.), Whiskey Falls (4 p.m.), Trent Tomlinson (5:30 p.m.), Luke Bryan (7 p.m.), Sara Evans (9 p.m.), Gretchen Wilson (11 p.m.).

June 21 – Bomshel (3 p.m.), Lady Antebellum (4 p.m.), Cross Canadian Ragweed (5:30 p.m.), Sawyer Brown (7 p.m.), Miranda Lambert (9 p.m.), Trace Adkins (11 p.m.). See Web site for side-stage schedules.

Also: Camping.

Tickets (if purchased by Sunday): \$140 (three days), \$325 (three days VIP), \$75 (single day), \$85-\$310 (camping).

Phone: (877) MOONJAM.

Web site: www.jammincountry.com.

American Celebration

When: June 27-July 6.

Where: Brainerd and Baxter.

Events with music:

• **Battle of the Bands**, 4-11 p.m. July 2, Adamson Field, Brainerd, \$5 (advance), \$8 (at gate).

• **Gospel Night featuring The**

Schimpp Family, 7 p.m. July 3, Heritage Assembly of God Church, Baxter, \$10 (advance), \$13 (at door), advance tickets available at Dispatch and Bethany Book Store in Brainerd, KTIG in Pequot Lakes and Good Bookstore in Little Falls.

• **Main festival featuring The District, Bill "The King" Musel and Battle of the Bands winner**, evening July 4, Adamson Field, Brainerd, free.

• **34th annual Arts in the Park**, 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. July 6, Gregory Park, Brainerd, free.

Other attractions: Fireworks, car show, softball tournament, Little Miss and Mr. Fourth of July Pageant, Miss Brainerd Lakes Scholarship Pageant, Race for the Cure.

Phone: 829-5278.

Web site: www.brainerdcommunityaction.org.

Taste of Minnesota

When: July 3-6.

Where: Downtown St. Paul, along Mississippi River, near Wabasha Bridge, Harriet Island.

Genres: Modern rock, classic rock, R&B, Christian music.

Stages: Three.

Taste Stage and MN Stage:

July 3 – T Albert Lloyd (3 p.m.), G.B. Leighton (5 p.m.), Cosmo (7 p.m.), R.E.O. Speedwagon (8:30 p.m.).

July 4 – Vic Tadesco (1 p.m.), Ladies of Doo Wop (2:30 p.m.), Ipso Facto (4 p.m.), The Truth (5:30 p.m.), The Original Idols (7 p.m.), Badfinger featuring Joey Molland (8:30 p.m.).



Miranda Lambert will perform at 9 p.m. June 21 at Moondance Jammin' Country Fest near Walker.



George Thorogood & the Destroyers will perform at 11 a.m. July 12 at Moondance Jam near Walker.



Gary Allan will perform at 11 p.m. June 19 at Moondance Jammin' Country Fest near Walker.

See GUIDE, Page 3E

BEST BETS

Our picks for this weekend and the week ahead

THURSDAY: MUSIC

Barbershop, bluegrass

The Crystallites will warm up the crowd with barbershop tunes and **Lost 40** will follow with cool bluegrass at a Music in the Park concert at 6:30 p.m. Thursday in Crosby's Memorial Park.

Admission is free; bring your own blanket or lawn chair.



FRIDAY-SATURDAY: MUSIC AND ART

A bevy of bands

Fourteen Minnesota bands will converge on Brainerd's Eclectic Cafe for this weekend's **Contrafair**.

The music starts at 7 p.m. Friday and 1 p.m. Saturday, and visual arts will be displayed throughout the event. Admission is \$5-\$8.



SATURDAY: MUSIC

An Eagle flies solo

Spend an evening with an Eagle – and a whole lot of other fans – when **Glenn Frey** takes a break from the Eagles' tour to perform a solo show

Saturday at the Manhattan Beach Lodge in Manhattan Beach.

The first opening act will take the stage at 4:30 p.m. Admission is \$32.50-\$97.50.

SATURDAY, TUESDAY: ART

Flaunting the Franklin

From 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Saturday, the monthly open house at Brainerd's **Franklin Arts Center** will feature the "Salute to the Arts" exhibit in the Q Gallery, the Mad Carpet Show in Gallery 119 and a "Fish Painting" children's activity (10 a.m.-noon). The FAC itself will be celebrated from 4:30-7:30 p.m. Tuesday with entertainment, open studios and refreshments.

MONDAY: MUSIC

Reed and writing

The Brown Bag Speakers Series will take a one-week break from



books to focus on another type of writing. Minnesota songwriter **Ann Reed** (left) will perform and discuss her work at noon Monday at the Brainerd Public Library. Admission is free.