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Minnesota State Fair kicks off Thursday

The Great Minnesota Get-Together features new attractions, exhibits and foods

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

It's that time of year again. The 2014 Great Minnesota Get-Together begins Thursday and runs through Sept. 1.

In addition to the grand opening of the Minnesota State Fair's new west end, this year's 12 days of festivities feature dozens of new attractions, exhibits and foods; a variety of discounts and special deal days; numerous special events; hundreds of free live music and entertainment acts; and many options for getting to the fair.

New attractions, exhibits and foods

Dozens of new attractions and exhibits make their State Fair debut in 2014, including an Extreme Canines Stunt Dog Show; the State Fair History and Heritage Center celebrating the fair's more than 150 years of history; eight new carnival rides; big changes to the Minnesota State Fair Horse Show; and more. With the grand opening of the new West End Market, Transit Hub and West End Gate, visitors will see some of the most significant changes to the State Fair programming and landscape in more than 75 years, according to a release.

In addition, nearly 30 new foods have been added to the fair's list of more than 450

options. A list of the new foods is available at www.mnstatefair.org.

Music and entertainment

The 2014 free entertainment lineup features more than 900 shows — all free with the price of admission.

The historic State Fair Grandstand is home to 11 nights of big-name entertainment from Aretha Franklin to Tim McGraw. Tickets are available at mnstatefair.org or by calling 800-514-3849.

Special events

Several new and traditional special events are scheduled to take place during this year's Great Minnesota Get-Together.

The 5K Milk Run, sponsored by Great River Energy, Midwest Dairy Association and Minnesota Farmers Union, kicks off at 7:45 a.m. Aug. 24.

Military Appreciation Day is set for Aug. 26, when the Minnesota State Fair honors the nation's heroes with admission discounts and special events throughout the day. This year's theme — A Salute to Military Kids — honors the children of military members and veterans, and the sacrifices they make while their loved ones serve, the release said. The day begins at 9:30 a.m. with a special ceremony honoring Minnesota's Veterans of Military Service at the State Fair

Veterans Garden on the south side of the Agriculture Horticulture Building.

At 10:25 a.m., members of the military raise the flag at the Leinie Lodge Bandshell while the 34th Infantry Division "Red Bull" band performs.

At 11:30 a.m., hundreds of children of military members and veterans parade from the bandshell to Carousel Park for a day of entertainment for all ages. Promo Place on the north end of the fairgrounds will be an all-day hub for activities by military-support organizations and more.

Two Minnesota senior citizens will be recognized for exceptional community service, the release continued, at the Outstanding Senior Citizens Award Ceremony set for 10:30 a.m. on Seniors Day, Aug. 28 at the Leinie Lodge Bandshell.

In its 42nd year as a Minnesota State Fair tradition, the Amateur Talent Contest showcases some of Minnesota's talent. During the first 10 days of the fair, semifinals will be held at 6 p.m. nightly at the Leinie Lodge Bandshell. Winners from semifinals will compete in the finals at 7:30 p.m. Aug. 31 at the grandstand.

Open class, 4-H and FFA competition judging takes place every day of the fair. For more information on when judging is taking

place and where to see the animals, visit the fair's website.

Visitors to the Great Minnesota Get-Together are asked to cast People's Choice Award nominations for their fair favorites in five categories: Best Product or Service; Best Food or Beverage; Best Attraction; Best Value; and Best Customer Service. Nominations can be made at the fairgrounds beginning opening day through 9 p.m. Aug. 25. Nomination forms are available at all information booths. Winners will be announced at 10 a.m. Aug. 28 at the International Bazaar Stage.

Discounts and special-deal days

The State Fair offers special admission discounts on six of its 12 days with Thrifty Thursday, Seniors and Kids Days, Military Appreciation Day and Read and Ride Day. Many vendors throughout the fairgrounds offer deal day savings. A complete list can be found at the fair website.

All-day or early-bird specials are offered each weekday on mighty midway and midway rides and games.

The Deals, Drawings & Giveaways Guides, available at State Fair information booths or online, offer complete details on special day deals, items for \$1 and under, freebies and sign-up-and-win drawings.

Latin American music, culture coming to library

JOURNAL STAFF REPORT

Get ready to experience the music and culture of Latin America at the International Falls Public Library.

A release from the Arrowhead Library System said at 3 p.m. Thursday, the Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra's Music to You program will feature the free event, "Explore the Music and Culture of Latin America," at the library.

Those in attendance can expect to take a tour through Brazil, Columbia, Argentina, Ecuador, Cuba and Venezuela, the release said. In the program, audience members will learn traditional Latin rhythms, play various folk percussion instruments and even get the chance to try out their dancing feet with styles like the Argentinian Tango, Columbian Cumbia, and Brazilian Samba.

This program, sponsored by Arrowhead Library System, was funded in part or in whole with money from Minnesota's Arts and Cultural Heritage Fund.

To learn more about Ar-



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Duluth Superior Symphony Orchestra's Music to You program will feature a free event, "Explore the Music and Culture of Latin America," at 3 p.m. Thursday at the International Falls Public Library.

rowhead Legacy Events, visit www.arrowhead.lib.mn.us/whats-new, Twitter [www.twitter.com/ArrowheadLegacy](https://twitter.com/ArrowheadLegacy), or Facebook at www.facebook.com/ArrowheadLegacy.

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Koochiching County
SP 036-707-001 (CSAH 107), Minn. Proj. No. HPPH H141(001), Aggregate Base, Bit'm. Surface, Curb & Gutter, Storm Sewer
BID OPENING DATE: Thursday September 4, 2014 at 2:00 pm, local time

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS: Sealed proposals will be received by the Board of County Commissioners of Koochiching County, Int'l. Falls, Minnesota until **Thursday September 4, 2014 at 2:00 pm** at the office of the County Auditor/Treasurer in the Koochiching County Courthouse 715 4th Street Int'l. Falls, Minnesota 56649 at which time they will be opened and read publicly for the following

Project Designation: SP 036-707-001 (CSAH 107), Minn. Proj. No. HPPH H141(001), Aggregate Base, Bit'm. Surface, Curb & Gutter, Storm Sewer

Project Location: On CSAH 107 between T.H. 71 and CSAH 2 in Int'l Falls, Total Length – 1.05 Miles

Major Project Quantities include:
-- 25,038 CY of Common Excavation (P)
-- 5,189 Linear Feet of Storm Sewer
-- 6,600 Tons of Bituminous
-- 24,778 SY of Geotextile Fabric
-- 18,464 Tons of Aggregate Base Class 5 (MOD.)

Final Completion Date: October 15, 2015

Proposals, Plans and Specifications are available at:
Koochiching County Highway Department
715 4th Street
Int'l. Falls, MN 56449

Cost for Plans: Cost of one set of plans and proposals is \$75 (Minnesota State Sales Tax Included). There is no cost for electronic plans and specs, they are at <https://egram.co.koochiching.mn.us> or phone (218) 283-1186 or email to joe.sutherland@co.koochiching.mn.us.

Bidder's Bond: Bids must be accompanied by a certified check or bidder's bond made payable to the Treasurer of Koochiching County in an amount not less than 5% of the total bid.

Bid shall be plainly marked on the exterior of the containing envelope: "CSAH 107, Letting Date, September 4, 2014."

Minimum wage rates to be paid by the Contractors have been predetermined and are subject to the Work Hours Act of 1962, P.L. 87-581 and implementing regulations.

READ CAREFULLY THE WAGE SCALES AND DIVISION A OF THE SPECIAL PROVISIONS AS THEY AFFECT THIS/THESE PROJECT/PROJECTS

The Minnesota Department of Transportation hereby notifies all bidders: in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Act), as amended and Title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, Subtitle A Part 21, Non-discrimination in Federally-assisted programs of the Department of Transportation, it will affirmatively assure that in any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded maximum opportunity to participate and/or to submit bids in response to this invitation, and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, disability, age, religion, sex or national origin in consideration for an award;

in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 as amended, and Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 230 Subpart A-Equal Employment Opportunity on Federal and Federal-Aid Construction Contracts (including supportive services), it will affirmatively assure increased participation of minority groups and disadvantaged persons and women in all phases of the highway construction industry, and that on any project constructed pursuant to this advertisement equal employment opportunity will be provided to all persons without regard to their race, color, disability, age, religion, sex or national origin;

in accordance with the Minnesota Human Rights Act, Minnesota Statute 363A.08 Unfair discriminatory Practices, it will affirmatively assure that on any project constructed pursuant to this advertisement equal employment opportunity will be offered to all persons without regard to race, color, creed, religion, national origin, sex, marital status, status with regard to public assistance, membership or activity in a local commission, disability, sexual orientation, or age;

in accordance with the Minnesota Human Rights Act, Minnesota Statute 363A.36 Certificates of Compliance for Public Contracts, and 363A.37 Rules for Certificates of Compliance, it will assure that appropriate parties to any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement possess valid Certificates of Compliance.

If you are not a current holder of a compliance certificate issued by the Minnesota Department of Human Rights and intend to bid on any job in this advertisement you must contact the Department of Human Rights immediately for assistance in obtaining a certificate.

The following notice from the Minnesota Department of Human Rights applies to all contractors:

"It is hereby agreed between the parties that Minnesota Statute, section 363A.36 and Minnesota Rules, parts 5000.3400 to 5000.3600 are incorporated into any contract between these parties based on this specification or any modification of it. A copy of Minnesota Statute 363A.36 and Minnesota Rules, parts 5000.3400 to 5000.3600 is available upon request from the contracting agency."

"It is hereby agreed between the parties that this agency will require affirmative action requirements be met by contractors in relation to Minnesota Statute 363A.36 and Minnesota Rules 5000.3600. Failure by a contractor to implement an affirmative action plan or make a good faith effort shall result in revocation of its certificate or revocation of the contract (Minnesota Statute 363A.36, Subd. 2 and 3)."

A minimum goal of **2.7 % Good Faith Effort** to be subcontracted to Disadvantaged Business Enterprises.

The Koochiching County Board reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive irregularities and informalities therein, and to award the contract in the best interests of Koochiching County.

Dated at International Falls, Minnesota**July 31, 2014.**

Joe Sutherland, Koochiching County Highway Engineer
Phone: 218-283-1186
Email: joe.sutherland@co.koochiching.mn.us

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