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Carmen Sevcik 507-649-0352

Produced by Mainstreet Publishing for the Rice County Steam & Gas Engines In

ELEBRATING 50 YEARS

Preserving a Bit of Yesterday for Tomorrow. That is our goal. This year, we celebrate out 50th Anniversary of the RCSG Show welcoming all makes and models.

We are excited to print this 50th Anniversary Souvenir Edition paper showing you more about the history of the club, our location and attractions here at RCSG. We thank our past and current sponsors for their generous support of the club over the years, many of which dor, volunteer or member, We Thank you

you see mentioned on these pages. Please support them whenever possible. We Thank our Club members and volunteers who make it all possible, not only at show time, but throughout the year. The club has been busy with projects around the showgrounds, all in an effort to make your visit here as enjoyable as

Whether you are a visitor, sponsor, ven-

for your friendship and support of The Rice County Steam & Gas Show, and look forward to seeing you again this year as we celebrate 50 years!





RICE COUNTY STEAM & GAS ENGINES INC. - A SHORT HISTORY OF THE CLUB

This information was found in the exhibits. Membership hovered at the 50 RCSGE archives, no author given.

In 1974 Clarence Purdie bought two 50 hp Case steam engines. S.F. (Smokey) Cross helped him restore them. After doing so, they decided to have a free Threshing Show/Exhibit. This took place at the corner of Highway 60 and Western Avenue in Faribault, MN. Approximately a half a load of oat bundles were threshed and there were about 30 people in attendance.

In 1975, C.E. Purdie, S.F. Cross, Fred Berndt and Joe Cross decided they would start a club and so was born what would later be known as the Rice County Steam & Gas Engines Inc. Club. Later that summer, a few more people joined the club and it was decided to hold a show and exhibit on the Loren Dahle farm in Warsaw, MN. By this time, Fred Berndt was elected to be the first President of the Club.

In 1976 the club held two shows. One was north of Faribault on Highway 3 and the second one was at the Rice County Fairgrounds in Faribault, MN. Smokey Cross at this time was President.

In 1978 the club made a move to the Malecha Brothers farm at Little Chicago, MN. Most of the interest still remained in the threshing activity, large and small. For some, the steel wheel tractors and some of the equipment seemed popular.

In the early 1980's other antique farm interests seemed to grow, as well as the membership. A sawmill and building were added, along with other items and member mark during this time.

The mid 1990's the club undertook the project of a raffle tractor to be raffled off at their annual Threshing Show. The first of which was a 1952 Ford 9N. Palmer Fossom was instrumental in finding just the right tractor and several members helped restore it to excellence. Larry Holt put a beautiful new coat of paint on her and the club was on its way. Members now are trailering a raffle tractor when they go to week-end shows around the state. Other members are spending an hour or so selling tickets at these shows as well as seeing the sights of other Clubs activities. More people are showing an interest in the antique tractors and machinery, and more individuals are collecting and restoring their pieces.

Again the membership numbers increase and the tractor displays have grown along with the qualitity of the show pieces, making for bigger an dbetter fall shows.

In the fall of 1998, the organization purchased 50 acres on Highway 3 south of Northfield, near Dundas, MN. The meandering club has finally purchased a permanent home. Strangely enough, it is only a few miles north of one of those early show sites held in 1976.

The 1999 season we were celebrating our 25th Anniversary. Our membership had nearly doubled in the past two years bringing a widely diversified base of occupations, experience and backgrounds.

We still needed to get the utilities hooked up and the finishing touches on the building before we could use it as intended, but it was a good start. A planning committee spend many a night in meetings charting and making plans for the set up of a pioneer type village on our showgrounds. Another raffle tractor was raffled off at our fall threshing show. This time a JD Garden Tractor, brand new with the warranty, and this time the lucky winner was club members, Don and Joann Weed of Northfield. With all the new demands, the club decided it best to resurrect the Board of directors system of the past. A new board was elected and immediately started the task of revising the by-laws to fit the growing club. We completed the paperwork of and received the 501-C3 government classified for a non-profit club with the help of a member's brother-in-law, Wesley Bahl. State sales tax exemption soon followed.

In the year 2000 the club held it's first annual Flea Market/Swap Meet on Memorial Day weekend. It was soggy weekend but not a total washout and we look forward to bigger and better events in the future. The club also initiated fundraising meals both in Northfield and Faribault with a good deal of success.

The raffle tractor for 2000 was an Allis Chalmers C tractor. Several members worked on obtaining the tractor but the main restorer by far was Sam Sperry of Webster township. The 2000 show had beautiful weather and a wonderful turn out. We introduced several new features that we hope to continue, such as the model airplane club exhibit. Another new feature for 2000 was the selection of a Miss Steamer to represent the our club at parades and other events. The first Queen was Heidi Barta, daughter of Club members Tracy and Luann Barta. Also the Princess was Heather Duban, daughter of club members Wally and Linda. Both girls did a wonderful job of attending festivals and events of other towns and representing the club in many ways, and so with the present season we are celebrating yet another year and anniversary together. The officers and board have acquired enough experience now that they are doing an even better job and are stepping out in leading the club in new and brighter directions. Growing so fast brings its problems, but with the mutual interests expressed and shown, we expect an even brighter and grander future. Welcome to our organization!

A lot has happened since 2000.

Vice County Steam & Gas Engines, INC.

Rice County Steam & Gas Showgrounds - 11988 Faribault Blvd, Dundas

GENERAL INFORMATION CONTACTS:

Bill Becker 507-581-1225 • Jeremy Sevcik 507-403-1614 Carmen Sevcik 507-649-0352

Special Edition

RICE COUNTY STEAM & GAS ENGINES INC. 2025 TRACTOR SHOW *PUBLICATION*

Produced and published for the Rice County Steam & Gas Engines Inc. by Mainstreet Publishing P.O. Box 125 - Dennison, MN 55018

> E-mail: hometownmessenger@gmail.com Telephone: 507-649-3327



A BIT OF YESTERDAY...

By Mary Tulp

The 50th Annual Rice County Steam and Gas Engines Tractor Show is coming up Labor Day Weekend, Friday-Sunday and I would like to give you some information on making Sorghum syrup. Every year we have a demonstration how to turn sorghum into syrup, however this year the sorghum plants did not grow as they should have. We will not be able to do our demonstration. I would like for you to read along to understand the process.

Sorghum comes in different types but for our purpose we grow a sweet sorghum which is used to produce syrup.

Sorghum is a grass that grows well in most climates. inexpensive to buy these seeds. Plant as you would corn and harvest the canes when ready to make molasses.

When the plants are ready in the field. A person will use a machete to chop the plants off about 6" above ground and removing the seed pod at the top of the plant, then loaded in a wagon.

The wagon will be brought to where the stalks will be stripped of all the leaves so the stalks can be put through the mill to crush the juice from the cane. The mill is run by a tractor that has been geared to the mill. The visitors/children at the show always like to help with putting the canes through the mill to get the juices. Using the sorghum plant juice, farmers would make syrup or otherwise called sorghum molasses. I have read that the taste of the molasses depends on the soil where it grows. It takes 10-12 gallons of juice to make one gallon of syrup.

We cook our juice over an outdoor wood fire in a large container, keeping it low and warm it slowly. Remember, there is a lot of natural sugar in the cane juice and it can scorch easily. Bring the mixture to a simmer and keep it there for several hours.

Steam & Gas Engines, INC.
www.ricecountysteamandgas.com

The cooking of the juice is where the ancient art and craft of making molasses becomes important. If you cook molasses too long, it will taste strong and be thick. If you cook it too short, it will not be done and remains runny.

As the greenish juice simmers, you'll notice a foam starting to form on the top. This needs to be skimmed off, if you don't skim the impurities off, they will cook into the molasses that will have a bitter taste. (I read this foam is nutritious so I keep it and add it to water for your plants.)

That's when it's boiling. At the beginning it could smell greenish, but then it will begin to smell like molasses. It is very time consuming process.

You'll know it's done when it no longer tastes like raw juice and is a thick syrup like dark corn syrup. The end result will be even thicker when it cools. Be sure to bring it all the way to this stage as undercooking it can cause it to spoil and can cause mold to grow.

When you get down to the last bit, you have to start pulling the fire away so you won't scorch it. When it is done, it will run off the spoon like thick corn starch. It if is runny, it's not done. If it is clumpy, it's too done. Don't ever cook it on a rainy day. It won't ever get done because of the humidity."

When the juice is reduced to about 10% (1 gallon from 10 gallons), it's ready to can. Pour into clean jars and seal in a hot water bath, as you would for canning tomatoes. Storing in an airtight container like this will help to prevent crystallization. Then to use, use it as you would any other molasses.

It could be used as a sweetener for foods like baked apples, gingerbread cake, ginger molasses cookies, in coffee, baked beans and barbecue sauces or just on breakfast biscuits.

You can find You Tube videos on making sorghum syrup.

Many recipes for using sorghum syrup on internet.

Read more at: https://www.salisbury-post.com/2017/12/05/making-sorghum-molasses-the-old-fashioned-way/





Sorghum in the field



Cleaning the stalk and putting it in the squeezing process to get the juice



Juice being processed down to a molasses type.

"STEAM IS HERE TO STAY RICE COUNTY STEAM SHOW" MARCH 1977 STEAM TRACTION

By Mrs Skip Voge

Steam cylinder oil was in the air and many people remembered days gone by of hard work and lot of sweat; but many more people remembered days gone by of love of the land and a togetherness that is not found in our age of mechanization. Farmers banded together against the elements are what steam days were all about. Once again steam was in its' glory on September 6, 1976, on a farm outside of Warsaw, Minnesota. On that beautiful fall day, thousands of people gathered to view the Minneapolis engine owned and operated by Fred Berndt of Morristown, and the 50 hp Case engine of C.E. Purdie of Faribault, easily ran the separators of by-gone days, threshing over 20 acres despite the dry season in Minnesota, once the oats yielded over 60 bushels per acre.

Visitors were treated to a day of nostalgia in buggy rides given by Chuck Thurber and Bud and Jim Cate. As llamas delighted both the young and young at heart compliments of the State Bank of Faribault and Mr. Smith of St. Peter, Minnesota.

Old tractors were on display as were old farm implements. Dennis Waskosky and his son Mark, collectors and restorers of gas engines, displayed a large assortment of models and demonstrated corn shelling with an antique sheller. The Waskosky girls also got in the act with their demonstration of rope making.

Warren Shevlin displayed his 1908, 12 hp International tractor, and Ron Salaba, Roman Kalina, Butch and Larry Malecha also had a large display of gas engines. Joe Cross, an avid steam and gas engine lover displayed several gas engines.

A large static display of farm equipment of days gone by was displayed by Rueben and Loren Dahle, on why the event was staged.

Smokey Cross and his son, Terry demonstrated and gave rides on their self-propelled 5 hp vertical boiler engine of their own design. The engine and boiler were salvaged from a creamery and mounted on 1954 axles. When Smokey first acquired the boiler, it was a plumber's nightmare. Now, it is a fantastic piece of beauty in its own right. They were assisted in the operation of the steam car by Todd Voge, 9 year old grandson of Smokey, who set many old timers back on their heels with his knowledge of the operation of the steam engine. Steam runs in the Cross family.

Elsner Machacek, Northfield exhibited his 1/3 scale model of a 65 hp Case tractor which had won many ribbons at the county fairs. It has been on display at numerous exhibits in the area and was always a favorite as it chugs along under power.

Tom Voge displayed his 1/30 scale model of the 65 hp Case engine that took him over two years to complete and was

Warren Shevlin displayed his 1908, 12 also self-propelled. All of the parts were p International tractor, and Ron Salaba, machined by hand and is is now a valuable collector's item

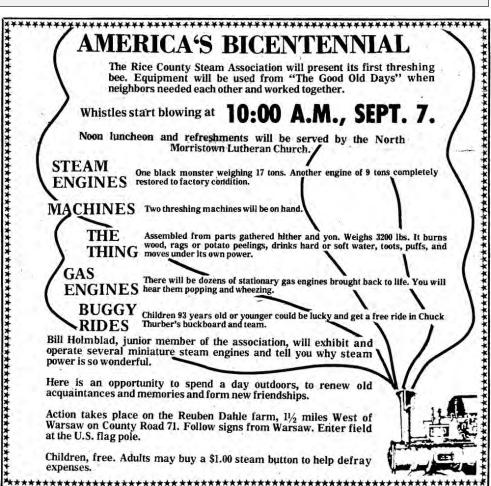
Art Voge ran the makeshift blacksmith shop and was kept busy making horseshoes for the spectators. They're nice remembrances of that special day in the lives of many people. Terry Voge, Smokey's 6 year old grandson had the job of keeping the forge hot.

Lunch was in the hands of the North Morristown Lutheran Church and a traditional thesherman's dinner was served in a big tent. It seems amazing how these men, women and even children can take a period of history and turn it into an event of today. How can they see through the rust and dirt to rebuild a piece of American history machinery into like the original equipment? Steam and Gas Engines has not been forgotten in the hearts and minds of many people in the Faribault area, it the 2nd Annual Steam Days were any indication. It is an art of history that has etched in the lives of everyone concerned and contrary to what people think, STEAM IS HERE TO STAY!!!

Looking Back at 2023 Tractor Show







1975 First Show Flyer

PLOWING WITH STEAM ENGINES









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HISTORY OF THE NORTHFIELD TOWNHALL HALL



On April 25, 1884, the Board of Supervisors of Northfield Township met at the office of the clerk to consider bids for the building of a town hall. Until this time, meetings of the township residents had been held at the farm of D.H. Orr, where a building was rented for \$5. Only one bid was submitted. This was from Charles Merrill for \$620, and the bid was not accepted.

The supervisors met again on June 23, 1884, at at this time, J.E. Cook was paid \$5 for the preparation of plans for the proposed townhall. Those on the Board in 1884 were William Hildebrandt, A.L. Huseby, and John Miller as Supervisors, E.J. Horr as Treasurer and John Koester as Clerk.

On October 9, 1884, the Supervisors met at the new townhall to inspect the building. The building was accepted and full payment of \$600 was paid to Joseph Tiffany for the construction of the hall building. The insurer of the townhall was the Home Insurance Company at a cost of \$12.50. Theador Miller was paid \$4.50 for chairs for the hall. Other costs were \$1.25 for a lamp and \$2 for fence

posts.

The first annual meeting held in the new townhall was on Tuesday, March 10, 1885. From that time on the building was used for township meetings, and it was also used by the Big Giants 4-H Club for monthly meetings. Over the years, some modifications were made to the heating, lighting and siding of the building. The townhall was used for over 115 years.

At the annual meeting in March of 2000, it was decided to build a new township hall at this same location of the intersection of 110th Street and Jacobs Avenue. The new hall was build over the summer months of 2000, and it was first used for the Primary Election in September 2000. Members of the Township Board when the new hall was built were:



Willard Estrem, Mike Groth and Brian Peterson as Supervisors, Karen Zimmerman as Treasurer, and Marjorie Randolph as Clerk.

Many township residents express the desire to have the old township hall moved to another site and have it preserved. The hall was donated to the Rice County Steam and Gas Association, and in the fall of 2001 it was moved to their

site along Highway 3, near Dundas. It will be part of the pioneer village they have planned for this location. This historic building will continue to be of use to the community, and it can be visited by those for whom it holds special memories

This information was taken from the Northfield Township Minute Books.



M-F 7:00 AM-Noon; 1:00-5:00 PM; Closed Sat. & Sun.

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Kids Pedal Pull













Looking Back at 2023 Tractor Show



PETTING ZOO

BY WINDY WILLOW FARM ADVENTURES



RICE COUNTY 4-H EXCHANGE



The group in front of the Alamo site

We have the Rice County 4-H Exchange who takes care of our flower garden maintenance around several of our buildings. Last year they had 13 youth, grades 6-12th. Their 2024 leaders were Rustianna Mechura and Lisa Wilson-Humfield. The group really enjoy getting together and giving back to our community.



A group having some fun after finishing their work at the Drentlaw House on RCSGE showgrounds last year.



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HISTORY OF THE RICE COUNTY NORTHERN RAILROAD

The Rice County Northern Railroad is a continued to make improvements to the wholly owned subsidiary of Rice County Steam and Gas Engines, Inc. A railroad had been planned since the original site plan was made when the club moved to the present Showgrounds site in 2001. The site plan shows a railroad around the entire display area. Over the years various plans were studied to add a railroad to the Showgrounds but nothing was formally approved. In the fall of 2018, the club had an opportunity to acquire an 1/8 scale train and track from a private party in Hackensack, Minnesota. After making a site visit to Hackensack, the club acquired the assets of the South Shore Hackensack and Pacific Railroad that included an F7 Locomotive, 5 freight cars, a caboose and approximately 1000 feet of track.

At the Fall Show in 2018, the train was on static display on the east side of the Music Building. During the summer of 2019, the section crew, rebuilt all the track, did the rough and finish grading and installed the main line track. On August 19, 2019, the golden spike was driven, indicating the completion of the main line. As you look around the railroad, you can see the golden spike about half way between mile posts and 8 and 9 on the north end of the right of way, along with a plaque between the rails commemorating that event.

During 2020, all public activities were shut down on the railroad, but the crew Railroad. The perimeter fence and landscaping was added and the rough grading for the Engine House was completed.

During the winter of 2020 and 2021, the framing and roof were completed for the Engine House. In May of 2021, the concrete floor was poured and during the summer of 2021, the section crew completed the enclosing of the Engine House and Yard Tracks.

Looking Back at 2023 Tractor Show



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

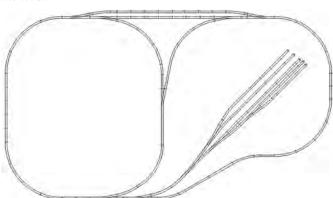
What is the size of the train?

The train is built to 1/8 scale, $1\frac{1}{2}$ " = 1'. The gauge of the track (distance between the inside of the rails) is $7\frac{1}{2}$ ". The actual length of the rolling stock is between 5' and 8' long.

What powers the locomotives?

Each locomotive is equipped with a 16 HP V Twin gas motor with a hydrostatic hydraulic drive to all axles.

How long is the track?



628 feet of Main Track, 120 feet of Passing Siding, 210 feet in the Wye, 382 feet of Yard Tracks & 11 Track Switches

Where is the train located?

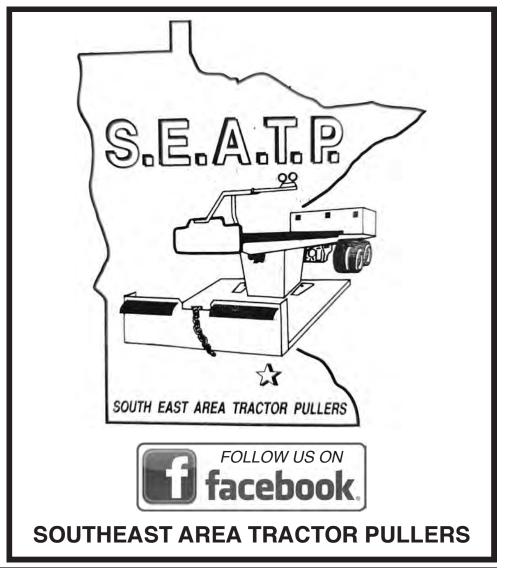
At the site of the Rice County Steam and Gas Engines Club at 11988 Faribault BLVD, Dundas, MN. (34 mile south of CR 20 on HWY 3)

When are rides available?

Public run days are held during the Spring Swap Meet on the Saturday and Sunday of Memorial Day weekend and during the Fall Show on Friday, Saturday and Sunday of Labor Day weekend. There is no charge for rides, but donations are accepted.

> How can I get more Information about the railroad? Email us at ricecountynorthern@gmail.com





BUILDING THE RAILROAD AND ENGINE HOUSE



Rebuilding Track



Placing Gravel for Roadbed



Preparing Roadbed



Final Level of Roadbed



Setting the Track Sections



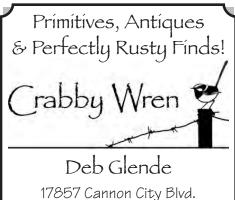
Placing Ballast



Final Tightening of Track Screws



Rough Grading for Engine House



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2nd Prize -Kwik Trip Fuel Cards (2) \$500

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2024 First Place

Congratulations to Craig Kostelecky from Isanti, MN, the first place winner of our 2024 raffle and the proud owner of a Minneapolis Moline model BF tractor!



2024 Second Place

Congratulations to the
2024 second prize raffle winner,
Jason Buck of Owatonna, MN.
Now the proud owner of the
Minneapolis Moline pedal tractor.

2024 Third Place

Congratulations to the 2024
third place raffle winner,
Joyce Johs
from Victoria, MN.











MUSIC

RICE CO. STEAM AND GAS ENGINES, INC. **50th Annual** TRACTOR SHOW AUGUST 29-31, 2025

FRIDAY, AUGUST 29



Polka, Waltz, Classic, Country



5:00-8:00 PM **OLD COUNTRY BOYS**

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30



10:00 AM-NOON



1:00-3:00 PM **SOUARE**

SUNDAY. AUGUST 31





1:00-4:00 PM



Drentlaw House

Plaving Traditional Country Music from the 30s, 40s, 50s and 60s



4:00-8:00 PM



2024 Tractor Show









 $Combining\ oats\ on\ grounds, Herman\ Transburg$



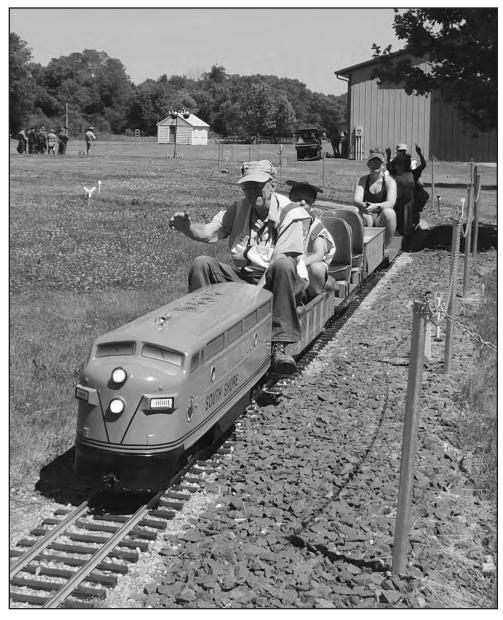


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SAWMILL













BLACKSMITH BUILDING

There is a plague hanging in the Blacksmith Building and it reads; The Blacksmith shop was built in the 1860's on a farm east of Faribault in Wheeling Township. Owner Vernon Buscho donated it to Rice County Steam and Gas Engines Inc. in 2002.

Volunteers disassembled brick by brick and reassembled on our showgrounds in

Thank You, Vernon!





The Guild of Metalsmiths, a non-profit organization of blacksmiths and assorted metalworkers, volunteers come every year to make items during the show.





Looking Back at 2023 Tractor Show



DINE IN • OUTDOOR SEATING • IN-STORE PICKUP









Downtown Dundas 645-8987

Hours: Monday-Thursday 8:00am to 11:00pm Friday 8:00am to 1:00am Saturday 7:00am to 1:00am Sunday 8:30am to 3:00pm





Waterford School Building

Waterford School Building was moved School remains well-preserved. ..It is a to our showgrounds 2023, currently it is on a foundation, but it will not be ready for visitors this year.

Waterford District School #72 represents a vanishing breed of buildings. The small rural schoolhouse. Built in 1882 at a cost of \$800, it replaced Waterford's first school. Unlike many rural schoolhouses which have been moved, the Waterford

white clapboard rectangular building

with a high gabled roof and bell tower.
Pediments adorn its transom and windows. In 1944 when many rural schools consolidated, the township purchased the school for \$1.00 and converted it into a community center and township hall. It was remodeled and redecorated in



Waterford School Building was moved to our showgrounds 2023, currently it is on a foundation, but it will not be ready for visitors this year.



Looking Back at 2023 Tractor Show





DRENTLAW HOUSE WAS MOVED ON SITE IN 2007









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Looking Back at 2023 Tractor Show

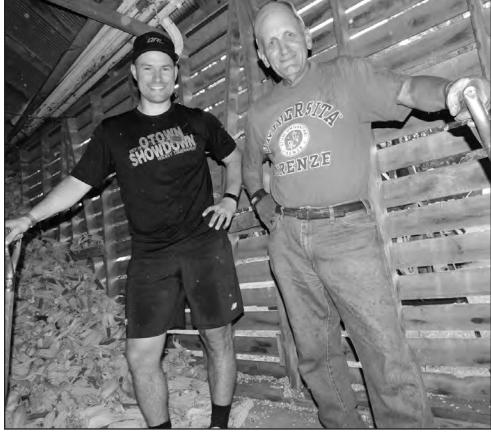


CORN SHELLING











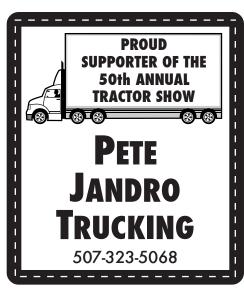


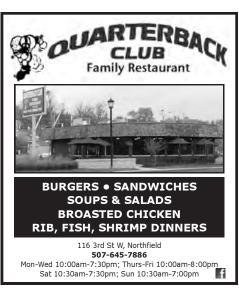
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PROUD TO SUPPORT THE 50th ANNUAL TRACTOR SHOW! Robert & Rebecca Glende

19201 Davis Ave. Faribault, MN 55021





TRACTOR PULL















Looking Back at 2023 Tractor Show



Kids washing clothes the old way, its a part of the kids area across from Drentlaw house.



THRESHING













AM Minnesota

Gordy KosfeldJerry Groskreutz Mon-Fri 9:00 am - 10:00 am

AM Minnesota is KDHL's weekday informational program featuring interviews with a variety of guests ranging from community members to nationally known authors.

You are sure to learn something new on each version of AM Minnesota.

NEW: AM Minnesota is now available On-Demand with new episodes appearing in our Listen Live Player, our mobile app, and with the following services:

Apple Podcasts • Google Podcasts • Spotify

kdhlradio.com

Proud to Support the 50th Annual Rice County Steam & Gas Engines, Inc.

Tractor Show!





LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Rice County Steam & Gas Engines Welcomes you

5074 ANNUAL SHOW

\$10.00 Adults \$10.00 Adults FREE 12 & Under Good for all 3 days!

Gates Open - 7am August 29-31, 2025

FOOD STANDS

FEATURING ALL MAKES & MODELS OF TRACTORS & EQUIPMENT

FLEA MARKET DAILY

*New this year- CORNHOLE TOURNAMENT - Saturday Afternoon, North side @ Music Bldg

- *PARADE OF TRACTORS -DAILY @ NOON
- *TRACTOR PULL Sunday 9:00 am
- *KIDS PEDAL PULL Saturday 2 PM
- *RAILROAD TRAIN RIDES DAILY

SUNDAY 4:00 pm RAFFLE DRAWING

LIVE MUSIC & BEER GARDEN

FRIDAY

1:00 – 4:00 pm *Charlie Sticha Band* 5:00 – 8:00 pm *Old Country Boys*

SATURDAY

10:00 – Noon Marv Gohman 1:00 – 3:00 pm Square Dancing

1:00 – 4:00 pm Dave Horejsi -Drentlaw House

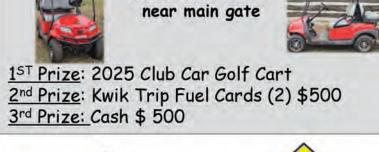
4:00 - 8:00 pm Dakota Ramblers Band

SUNDAY

8:00 am *Non-Denominational Church Service* 10:00 – Noon *Marv Gohman* 1:00 – 4:00 pm *Czech Area Concertina Club*

General Information Contacts:

Bill Becker 507-581-1225 Jeremy Sevcik 507-403-1614 Carmen Sevcik 507- 649-0352



\$5 Raffle Tickets



*Registration of all golf carts & ATV's will be required. Proof of Insurance. No Cycles

*Golf Cart Rentals : West Exhibitors Gate Contact: Sheryl Trebelhorn 612-245-8722

Leashed Pets Only * Primitive Camping Available

INFORMATION ON OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK: ricecountysteamandgas.com

Rice County Steam & Gas Showgrounds * 11988 Faribault Blvd *Dundas, MN 55019 (Located South of Dundas on Highway 3)