

# MINNESOTA STATE FAIR

## NEWS RELEASE

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Contact: Brienna Schuette • Communications Manager • (651) 288-4452 • [brienna.schuette@mnstatefair.org](mailto:brienna.schuette@mnstatefair.org)

### Variety of Programs Offered for Seniors at 2009 State Fair

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MINNESOTA STATE FAIRGROUNDS – Many programs and opportunities for senior citizens will be featured at the 2009 Minnesota State Fair including two special days, daily discounts on admission and free entertainment.

Pre-fair discount admission tickets (\$9), Blue Ribbon Bargain Books and ride & game tickets are available through Aug. 26 at participating Cub Foods Stores, numerous locations in greater Minnesota and Western Wisconsin, and the State Fair Box Office on the fairgrounds.

Senior discount days are scheduled for Monday, Aug. 31 and Thursday, Sept. 3 when guests 65 and over are admitted for just \$6. Also on Sept. 3, Carousel Park hosts Minnesota's Largest Senior Stretch & Stroll with health-related information, music and prizes. Registration begins at 9:30 a.m. and the program begins at 10 a.m.

Special free entertainment will be highlighted every day on the fair's free stages. On Seniors Days, entertainment on the Ramberg Senior Center Stage (sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans®) includes: The Gallivanter (Aug. 31), Hank Thunander (Aug. 31), Jim Berner (Sept. 3) and the Rod Cerar Orchestra (Sept. 3). The Heritage Square Stage (sponsored by August Schell Brewing Co.) features Charlie Parr (Aug. 31), The Sherwin Linton Show featuring Pam and the Cotton Kings (Aug. 31), Billy McLaughlin (Aug. 31); the Roe Family Singers (Sept. 3), The Barbary Coast Dixieland Show Band (Sept. 3) and Storyhill (Sept. 3).

The 2009 Grandstand Series (sponsored by Walmart) features live shows nightly including Randy Travis with special guest Joe Nichols (Sept. 1) and A Prairie Home Companion with Garrison Keillor (Sept. 4). On Senior Days, Jackson Browne (Aug. 31) and Casting Crowns with special guest BarlowGirl (Sept. 3) will headline. Call Ticketmaster at (800) 745-3000 or the State Fair Box Office at (651) 288-4427 for Grandstand ticket information.

Guests may hail a free trolley ride (sponsored by Comcast) with the grandkids to Little Farm Hands. From farm to market, the agricultural process comes to life as children plant crops, drive tractors, milk cows, feed animals and more at this interactive and educational mock farm (sponsored by Kemps, Cub Foods, Crystal Sugar, Butter Kernel, John Deere Company, Cargill and Minnesota Corn Growers Association).

Cash machines (sponsored by TCF Bank) are located throughout the fairgrounds and are noted on the State Fair map. Visitors can pick up free maps, daily schedules (sponsored by the Minnesota State Lottery), specialty brochures and the Deals, Drawings and Giveaways Guide at any of the State Fair's information booths (sponsored by Qwest).

The 2009 Minnesota State Fair runs Aug. 27 through Labor Day, Sept. 7. For more information on senior programs at the Minnesota State Fair, call (651) 288-4400 or write to Minnesota State Fair, 1265 Snelling Avenue North, St. Paul, MN 55108-3099. Information is also available on the State Fair web site at [www.mnstatefair.org](http://www.mnstatefair.org).

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