

JUBILEE DAYS: Huge crowds flock to Isanti for annual events surrounding rodeo. PAGE 2



DEE ANN SIBLEY | COUNTY STAR

Throwing on the breaks

A cowboy attempts to wrestle a steer to the ground during the Isanti Firefighters Rodeo held last weekend. See page 9 for more rodeo photos.

Chisago County Fair celebrates 150 years

BY STACY VERDICK CASE NEWS@COUNTYSTAR.COM

For 150 years, the Chisago County Fair has brought together the community for fun, food and a celebration of all the good things Chisago County has to offer. July 21 to 24, marks this milestone anniversary with traditional fair offerings as well as a few new events.

Special events to celebrate the fair's sesquicentennial include a free kids tent with free crafts, and glitter tattoos; scavenger hunt for kids and adults; demo derby; fireworks and more.

Also new this year, the Chisago County Fairboard has added free art classes throughout the weekend. Parent/Child Painting by Creative Studio 23 — Friday, July 22 from 2 to 4 p.m.; 18+ painting by Creative Studio 23 — Friday, July 22 from 5 to 7 p.m.; Sign Class by Nic-Knack Designs — Saturday, July 23 from 11 to 1 p.m., and 2 to 4 p.m.; Ages 8 and up Mandala Rocks by Minnesota Makes — Saturday, July 23 from 5 to 7 p.m., 11 to 1 p.m., and 2 to 4 p.m. These classes are being offered free thanks to a MN Legacy Grant from the State of Minnesota.

As usual, each day features

free music at the bandshell from local musicians. On Thursday there will be live music by **Kenny Krona and Rick Stener** from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. and the **Soupbones** from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. On Friday there will be live music from **Neighberz** from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. and **Gel** from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. On Saturday the band **Time Bandits** takes the stage from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m. and **Good for Gary** from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

Moto Cross Race registration begins at 4 p.m. Thursday at the back gate, and the races begin at 7 p.m in the grandstand.

Sunday is an amateur talent show. Contestants must register by July 20. There is a \$15 entry fee and applications will be accepted on a first come basis. Winners of the contest can advance to the state competition held during the Minnesota State Fair.

Saturday the fair is offering a **Touch of Magic** show at 12:45 p.m. and STEM demonstrations from 2 to 3 p.m.

The carnival runs from Thursday thru Sunday. The county fair parade is Saturday at 3 p.m.

The fair is a free gate fair but \$30 arm bands are required for rides Thursday, and Friday. On

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Road closed ahead?

Cambridge considers limiting automobile-based businesses downtown

BY BILL STICKELS III EDITOR@COUNTYSTAR.COM

In its ongoing effort to attract new, diverse businesses to downtown Cambridge, the city council is considering an ordinance amendment that would essentially cap the number of transportation or automobile related businesses within the downtown district.

During the July 5 council meeting, the council heard a presentation of the proposal from Community Development Director Marcia Westover. "Based on the city's guiding documents and historical discussions regarding downtown, staff are proposing to remove all auto oriented uses within the downtown and downtown fringe area," Westover said.

Specific businesses that would be targeted with this proposal include convenience stores, repair and service shops, sales and rentals, car washes, and drive-in establishments.

Westover emphasized that none of the existing businesses that fall within these categories would be asked to role in creating the fabric of our downtown and community as a whole.

"They can stay as legal, non-conforming businesses," she said. "They can remain, as long as long as they follow state statute. They can even be sold as-is and used forever as long as they follow that state statute."

She added if a business were to close for more than one year, then that property would be subject to this new ordinance. Also, businesses would not be allowed to expand.



move.

"We have two businesses in particular — Doctor Monte's and Steve's Tire, they've played an important

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MAP COURTESY OF CITY OF CAMBRIDGE

The areas shaded in red and pink indicates the designation of the downtown and downtown fringe districts.



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