



62nd Annual MAKOTI THRESHING SHOW

July 8-10 2022





To our members and guests:

Our goal is to make your experience as enjoyable as possible. We have been continuously working to improve the public's experience at our show the last few years. As with anything, improvements take time, so we appreciate your ongoing support and patience. We promise to continue improving year after year, and we assure you that this will be a family event for generations to come.

Notable changes for this year's show will be the stream lining of our parade route, the parade starting at 3 p.m. instead of 1 p.m., and live entertainment being held in the South Building. We will have multiple people on site to ensure that things run as smooth as possible. If we work together this year, it will be much easier moving forward in the future.

Thank you for taking part in our show. We hope you enjoy it as much as we do!

Sincerely,

Darin Vangsness, Makoti Threshers Association President



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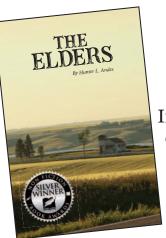
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We hope you enjoy the Makoti Threshing Show and you will consider supporting the sponsors listed herein.

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THE ELDERS by Hunter L. Andes



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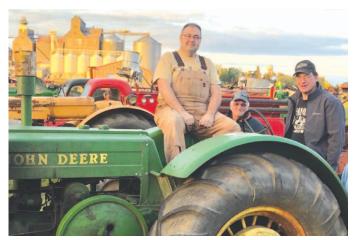
Smyth brings history alive

BY HUNTER L. ANDES

When it comes to having a successful threshing bee in North Dakota, one of the keys to success is having Canadians in attendance. Makoti, as well as other shows in the state, can attest to this after experiencing the two-year hiatus where Canadians were unable to cross the international border due to it being closed.

Canadians play a vital role in a threshing show's operation because they don't necessarily come to just watch the parade; they come to volunteer and bring machinery back to life that in some cases hasn't run in 30 or more years.

Arthur Smyth of Birtle, Manitoba, his son Norman of Carberry, Manitoba, and family friend Justin Davis of Winnipeg, are a trio who has brought a much-needed upbeat spirit to the show since they started volunteering at the stationary engine



These Manitobans have been volunteering at our small town's big event since 2016: Arthur Smyth, his son Norman, and their friend Justin Davis. They plan on returning once again now that the border has reopened, which is welcome news to our show.

OLDS OLDS

Arthur Smyth, of Birtle, Manitoba, makes a round trip of 460 miles to volunteer in the stationary engine building at Makoti. Smyth became an official member at the general meeting before the show in 2018. His son Norman travels over 600 miles round trip, and family friend Justin Davis travels roughly 800 miles round trip. Smyth, and crew, are vital assets; they help keep the show a success. *Photos by Hunter L. Andes*

building in 2016. A spirit that has been missed the last two years.

"It's really nice to see we have people who are willing to come from not only across the state, but from Canada, as well," Darin Vangsness, president of the Makoti Thresher's Association, said. "We really appreciate what these guys do for us because there just isn't the people around this area to do it all anymore."

There are numerous folks from the prairie provinces of Manitoba, Saskatchewan, and Alberta who carry an array of knowledge from steam engineering to blacksmithing. They are all

vital assets to any show, not only because of what they know, but because of the enthusiasm they bring with them.

The trio is known for their sense of humour, and they are sure to put a smile on the faces of the spectators and directors alike.

"What kind of question is that, of course, we'll be coming back," Arthur said with a chuckle. "We love coming down to visit and help you folks out."

There are over 500 stationary engines in Makoti, and Arthur, Norman, and Justin have vowed to work their way through and get them all spinning once again.

History of Jones Collection

Makoti has one of the largest stationary engine displays in the state of North Dakota. Referred to as the Wayne Jones Collection, the engines comprise an entire building on our show grounds. Jones, who was from Ryder, bought them from all over the countryside, restored them, and upon his death, donated them decades ago.

Since Jones' death, not much attention has been paid to the collection, that is until the Smyth trio started bringing several of the century-old machines back to life. The trio plays an essential role in our show – running dozens of the engines on display throughout the weekend each year.

Threshers create new dance venue

BY HUNTER L. ANDES

Discussion was buzzing after the Makoti Threshers Association's board of directors approved a motion to make the south building their new dance venue. A week after the vote, the work began.

"We're trying for a nice evening entertainment venue," Darin Vangsness, president of the MTA, said. "Our board decided that it would be in our best interest to lay asphalt in the west third of our south building for our dances, for year around events, and for a space to repair association owned equipment if needed."

Vangsness was elected president in 2016, and he said he's proud of the strides the MTA has made since he was elected president, but he said there are still a few things he would like to see get completed before he hands the reins to the next president.

"We have a few more projects I'd like to see through before I step



The new dance venue in the South Building.

down," Vangsness said.
"One of them is having year-round events. I would personally like to see something in the spring coordinated with our annual meeting as well as a fall event such as a "Harvest Hoedown"

festival where we could get a band like the one we have this summer in our new venue to bring people together one last time before the cold sets in."

Vangsness said the MTA is moving in the

right direction.

"We've come a long way, but there's still a lot of work to be done," he said. "If we keep our nose to the grindstone, and if our board works as a team, we will continue to grow in the right direction."



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A tribute to Marvin Franklin

Passing on the torch

BY HUNTER L. ANDES

Marvin Franklin of Roseglen, has yet to miss the Makoti Threshing Show. He has been an active member for 62 years in counting and has served on the Makoti Threshers Association's board of directors for over 50 years. This spring, Franklin made the hard decision to step down from his post.

"I knew it was time for me to step down, and it couldn't have worked out better," Franklin said. "Josh Reinisch was elected into my position, and I couldn't be happier about that. He will do a lot for the show moving forward."

Makoti's threshing show is without a doubt one of Franklin's greatest passions. As a director for the last half century, he has overseen numerous different MTA projects and events. Without Franklin, and his best friend, the late Dale Hopkins,



Marvin Franklin, a former director and charter member of the Makoti Threshers Association, leading the annual Tractor Trek with his iconic John Deere 60, which runs off propane. The Tractor Trek is a popular event Franklin started about 15 years ago.

many of the buildings on our grounds may not be here today.

"The MTA bought the land for the threshing grounds in 1970 if my memory serves me correctly," Franklin said. "Prior to that, we were based out of the green Quonsets uptown, and

we had our parade down main street until it was paved. We used to thrash up north of town and west of town.

Franklin said they needed more room in the late 1960s because the show was growing exponentially.

"That 10 acres came up for sale on the south side of town, so we bought it," Franklin said. "The first building down there was the stationary engine

MARVIN continued on pg 7







building; Dale Hopkins old antiques we gathered and I were on the buildings and grounds committee, and I remember staking it out. Most of the stationary engines people had were on trailers at the time, then when Wayne Jones came in, it really got big - he filled the building full. The township school came in after that. The John Deere building [which Franklin named] came shortly after."

Franklin said some of the board members at the time wanted the Methodist church in the middle of the grounds instead of where it is todav.

"Dale and I convinced the board to put it across the school, which was the start of the pioneer village. After that, a couple buildings from town made their way down, and a couple homestead shacks were moved in. I was able to purchase the Roseglen post office boxes, and we got them in the pioneer village post office with a lighter collection and all the other

together."

Hopkins and Franklin purchased the sawmill from Washington state and donated it, and also helped get the south brown building pushed through; this is where the MTA dances will be held moving forward.

"We went through the Rvder lumbervard to build that one," Franklin said. "Because of its size, one of the head guys from the building company chain had to come out and look at it to figure out what to do in order for it not to collapse; it needed a lot more bracing than originally thought."

Franklin has seen the show evolve over the years said he thinks changing the date to July is probably the best decision the show has ever made.

"My motto has always been, if we don't change and evolve, people aren't going to want to come anymore," he said. "It's always good to think of new and different ways



of doing things."

Franklin has been an instrumental part of our association, and we are eternally grateful for

what he, and all the charter members, have done to keep our community on the map.

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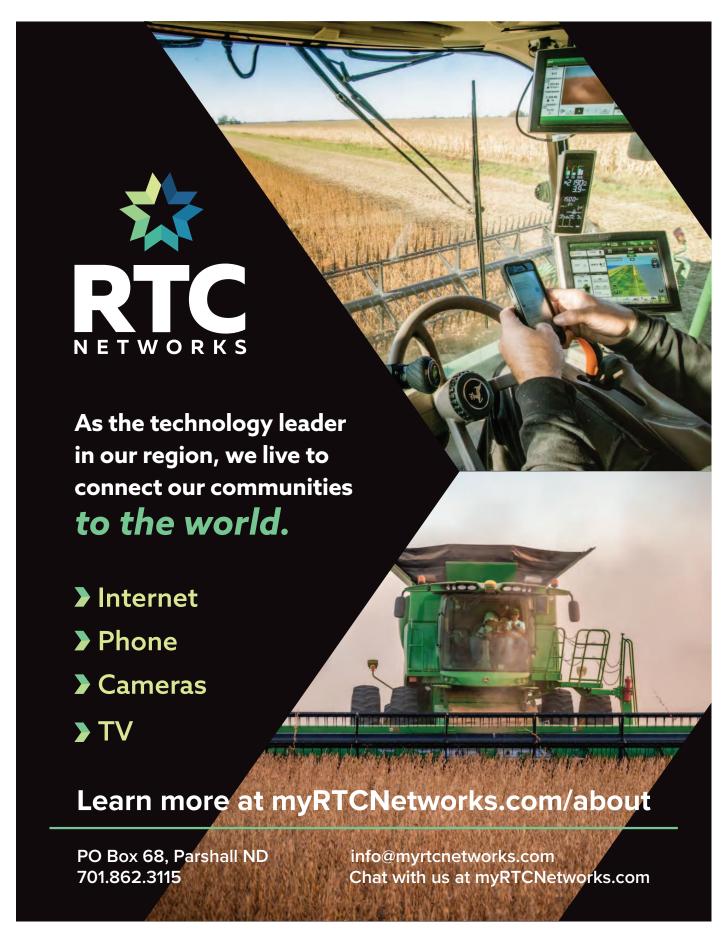


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What's Happening

Friday

The K-Bar in Makoti will be having a Steak Fry Friday night to kick off our show. Steaks will be served from 5:30 to 9 p.m. Make sure to stop by for a bite to eat!

Want to test your driving skills? Do you trust your partner to guide you? If so, come down to the Adult Backseat Driver event on the threshing grounds with your partner. One of you will be blind folded driving a lawn mower, and the other will give directions from behind. Must be 18 years of age or older. Lawn mowers and blind folds provided.

Saturday

The annual tractor trek has returned once again, and this year we're going where we never have before—11 miles up the road to Plaza for breakfast. Jump on our "people mover" for a free ride Saturday morning!

What kid wouldn't want to get on a sheep? If your child is seven years of age or younger, bring them over and let them have the ride of a lifetime! Helmets are provided. The event starts at 10.

Don't miss out on our Kiddie Tractor Pull at 11 a.m. It will be a sure-fire hit!

Giant Parade has been moved to 3 p.m. Make sure to park south of the big church and sawmill if you're in the parade. Find our new parade marshal, Mike Larson, for any questions.

The Spaghetti Supper has returned once again. Make sure to stop by the Senior Center uptown from 5 till 8 p.m.

LIVE MUSIC — we are happy to announce our modern live entertainment for Saturday night. October Road will be performing from 8 p.m. to midnight, so bring your dance partner and come break in our new floor! Beer gardens will be on site, so please bring your ID and drink responsibly.

Sunday

Make sure to start your day right with the annual Pancake Breakfast. It will be at the Senior Center uptown.

Our church service has now moved to 9:30 a.m. and will be in the Spring Valley church on the grounds. Pastor Chris Lenning of Plaza will officiate. All denominations are welcome.

We're featuring John Deere this year, so make sure to bring that green painted iron to our Slow Race at high noon! Let's race to see who can go the slowest!

Giant Parade has been moved to 3 p.m. Make sure to park south of the big church and sawmill if you're in the parade. Find our new parade marshal, Mike Larson, for any questions.

All raffle drawings will follow the parade on Sunday before cleanup begins.



Schedule of events

Friday Evening, July 8

- 5:30-9 p.m. Steak Fry at the K-Bar | Lawnmower Race
- 8 p.m. Adult Backseat Driver
- Cornhole Games

Saturday, July 9

- -8 a.m. Tractor Trek (Starts on | *grounds*)
- 10 a.m. Kid's Mutton Bustin'
- 11 a.m. Kiddie Tractor Pull

- 3 p.m. Giant Parade
- 5 p.m. 8 p.m. Spaghetti Supper
- -8 p.m. Midnight Live Music: October Road

Sunday, July 10

- 8 a.m. 10 a.m. Pancake Breakfast
- Church Service on - 9:30 a.m. grounds
- 12 p.m. Slow Race
 - 3 p.m. Giant Parade
 - Raffle Drawings Following Parade



YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS THIS! MAKOTI THRESHING SHOW

New Town



369 MAIN ST, NEW TOWN, ND

Schedule of events

Full Weekend Events

- Flea Market (Saturday & Sunday)
- Food Vendors on grounds
- St. Elizabeth Catholic Church food in town
- Pioneer Village
- Large Stationary Engine Display
- Tractor Teeter Totter
- Souvenir Sales Information Booth
- Threshing, Saw Mill, Shingle Mill, Plowing Demos, Antique Power Log Saw



- Kid's Bike Drawings (Saturday & Sunday following the parade)
- North Dakota Draft Horses (demonstrations and meet & greet)

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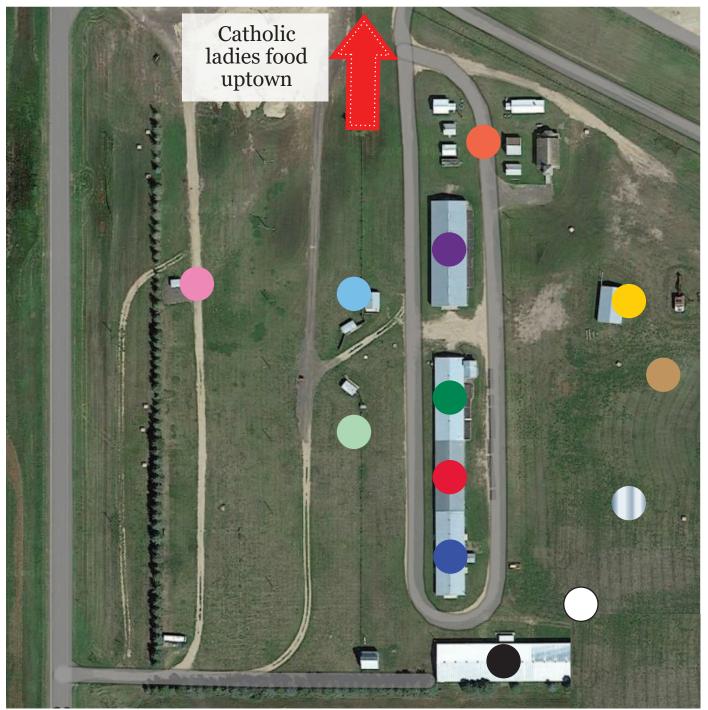
Map



Sawmill Camping office Threshing Demo Horses

Food court John Deere Building Flea market

Stationary Engine Building Mutton Bustin' Dance





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