



# Dakota City Party Line

DAKOTA CITY HERITAGE VILLAGE

## Fall, Christmas events are coming up soon

Plans are underway for Dakota City's two largest events of the year, the Harvest Moon Festival, October 21 and 22, and Christmas in the Village, December 3 and 4 and December 10 and 11. Many volunteers are needed for both events.

Last year, a revamped and renamed two-day Harvest Moon Festival drew more than 2,400 visitors of all ages. A snow-covered Christmas in the Village was successful its first weekend but a blizzard canceled the second weekend. A rescheduled one-day Christmas in the Village the following weekend drew a few hundred people.

### **Harvest Moon Festival**

Hours will be 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. both Friday, Oct. 21, and Saturday, Oct. 22. Children will receive a tally sheet to visit activity stations inside and outside Dakota City's buildings.

The event is designed to acquaint children with chores and leisure activities of the early 1900s. Costumed interpreters and high school-aged volunteers will be on hand.

Activities will include shelling and grinding corn, making pinwheels, making rope, playing old-fashioned games, washing clothes by hand, doing potato stamping, making corn

husk and rag dolls, and dipping candles.

The "Not Too Spooky Hayride" will be offered from 6 to 8 p.m. both nights. Last year the trolleys were filled for the rides, which occur several times a night.

### **Christmas in the Village**

Lights will twinkle in the trees and inside the buildings during Christmas in the Village. Hours will be 1 to 8 p.m. both weekends, Dec. 3-4 and Dec. 10-11.

Children will be able to write a letter to Santa Claus in the Post Office. Homemade crafts will be available to make and take home in several buildings. A Vic-

torian Santa will stroll the grounds and horsedrawn trolleys will carry visitors around the Village.

### **Both events**

For both the fall and Christmas events, food, hot chocolate and soft drinks will be available in the Drug Store. The Gift Shop will feature homemade items, candy and books.

The admission fee will be \$2 per child for four-through 12-year-olds and \$4 per person for ages 13 and up. Children ages three and under will be admitted free and the maximum charge for a carload will be \$12.

### **CALENDAR**

#### **Harvest Moon Festival**

*October 21-22*

#### **Annual Meeting**

*November 19*

#### **Christmas in the Village**

*Dec. 3-4*

*Dec. 10-11*

#### **Victorian Tea**

*May 5, 2012*

## **We need volunteers! Please call us.**

We need volunteers to staff the village during the Harvest Moon Festival and Christmas in the Village. Needed are costumed interpreters, food service workers and more. At the Dakota City gate, volunteer names will be checked off for free admission and parking. Check in at the Village office to receive a discounted meal ticket. See available shift times below.

### **Harvest Moon Festival**

Friday, Oct. 21, & Saturday, Oct. 22

9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.,

1 to 5 p.m., 4:30 to 8 p.m.

### **Christmas in the Village**

Saturday & Sunday

Dec. 3 & 4, Dec. 10 & 11

12:30 to 4:30 p.m., 4 to 8 pm.

**To volunteer, please call** the office (651-460-8050 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.) or e-mail us (info@dakotacity.org). The office is short-staffed and it is not easy to catch you at home. Your call will be greatly appreciated.

# Notes from the Board

## **Annual meeting set for Nov. 19**

The Dakota City Heritage Village annual meeting is scheduled for 10 a.m. on Saturday, Nov. 19, in the Dakota City Drug Store in the Village. Business will include election of members to the Board of Directors, as well as reports of 2011 activities and 2012 expectations and plans.

All members are welcome and invited to participate. Coffee and treats will be served.

## **Raffle features American Girl doll**

A \$1.00 ticket will give the buyer a chance to win an American Girl Doll. The doll, named Rebecca, comes with a bed, an extra dress, pajamas and some accessories. She would make a wonderful gift for a young girl.

The doll will be on display in the Dakota City Gift Shop during the Harvest

Moon Festival and Christmas in the Village events. Tickets will be available for \$1.00 apiece or \$5.00 for seven tickets. The winning ticket will be pulled at 8 p.m. December 11th.

The doll was donated for use in a fundraiser. Proceeds from the raffle will benefit the programs at Dakota City Heritage Village.

## **Fall tours of Village are happening**

A total of 22 Village tours have been scheduled for fall. Alisa Peterson, Education Coordinator, said that most are school groups but some are scout groups and senior citizen groups.

She expressed thanks to all the volunteers who faithfully show up to help, adding that the tours would not be successful without them. The Education department is always looking for more volunteers, she said. Anyone who is available to volunteer on weekdays when school groups visit is invited to contact Peterson at 651-460-8050 or stop in the office.

## **Can you donate items on 'Wish List?'**

Please call 651-460-8050 if you can donate any of the following:

Used or unused Christmas cards for making crafts at Christmas in the Village

Dehumidifier, shop vacuum

## **Easy fundraisers help Dakota City**

Help Dakota City raise money by bringing in UPC labels and milk caps from products you already buy. The Village can redeem these items for cash.

The Village is collecting Our Family UPC labels from any Our Family products. Also collected are Kwik Trip milk caps, milk bag tops and price ovals from Glazer donuts and other Kwik Trip products.

You can bring these items to the Dakota City office, 4008-210th St. W., on the fairgrounds in Farmington. There is a bucket in the office for Our Family labels and another bucket for Kwik Trip price ovals and milk caps. If you wish, you can mail them to Dakota City at P.O. Box 73, Farmington, MN 55024.

If you already buy these products, please save the UPC labels and caps for Dakota City. Thank you.

## **Not able to volunteer?**

If you can no longer volunteer and would like your name taken off the volunteer call list, please let us know by calling 651-460-8050. Your help in past years has been greatly appreciated by all of us here at Dakota City.



This vehicle from the good old days was part of the Sunday afternoon car show at the Fair.



The Fair's daily tractor parade through the Village drew onlookers who reminisced about the tractors they used to drive.

# Great weather brings crowds for Dakota County Fair



The barber sharpens his razor for the next customer.

Beautiful weather, good attendance and a good time. That's how the Dakota City Heritage Village Board termed the Dakota City Fair.

The Village Board teamed with the Fair Board to move the Chautauqua tent just south of Ahlberg Hall. They jointly hired musicians and other talent, including radio broadcasts and acting.

The lemonade stand, corn stand, food sales in the Drugstore and the Gift Shop brought in funds.

About 900 volunteers were needed to staff the buildings during the seven-day event. The Board expresses its appreciation to all those who helped. Unfortunately, a few buildings had to be closed

during some shifts due to a lack of volunteers.

New to the Village was a Hobo Camp, set up near the depot. It was well received and the Board plans to make it bigger and better next year. An Indian Camp also is being considered. Anyone with an interest in helping with these two areas is asked to call the office at 651-460-8050 and help with brainstorming for the 2012 fair.

"Folks might think it's way too early to think about next year's fair," said Dakota City's Board Vice President Mary Hendricks. She added, "Oh, my, no. Now is the time when the event is fresh in our minds. We can talk about what we would like added or changed."



A young volunteer explains the intricacies of the linotype machine



A fireman models one of the new uniforms sewn by a volunteer as he mans a hand pump.



Blacksmithing takes concentration when hammering hot iron.

Big machinery and lots of noise keeps these young fellas enthralled at the threshing demonstration (at right).



It's showdown time for the desperadoes who planned to rob the Village bank. Below, townsfolk who heard rumors about the robbery close in to defend the Village. At right below, a reenactor from the Cannon Valley Old West Society realizes he's cornered.



The last day of the fair means one last trip to the Gift Shop for candy for these tired volunteers.



## Display wins a blue ribbon

“Century Farms,” Dakota City Heritage Village’s entry in Minnesota State Fair competition, won a blue ribbon. The exhibit was developed and executed by Corey Forstrom and Lynn Stegmaier.

The display included photographs of the Ole Storlie farm in Eureka Township depicting the original house and the house as it is now. A mannequin dressed as a farmer and holding a pitchfork, a sheaf of grain, a grain cradle and a stalk of corn also were displayed.

The exhibit traced family ownership of the land, beginning with Ole Storlie. He purchased the land in about 1870. The side walls of the display included photos of machinery used on the farm during various eras.

Dakota City has entered the State Fair exhibit for the past nine years and won either a red or blue ribbon along with a monetary award. The exhibit is prepared early so that it can be displayed during the Dakota County Fair.

Arlyn Lamb and Mary Hendricks helped erect the display at the State Fair. Forstrom and Stegmaier added the finishing touches.

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Find us on Facebook -- Visit Dakota City’s web site ([www.dakotacity.org](http://www.dakotacity.org)) today and click on the “Facebook” button.

Wow! Just look at that train! These brothers are fascinated with the model trains operating in Ahlberg Hall Museum during the Dakota County Fair.



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### **Can you help?**

***Please see the front page to find out how to volunteer at the Harvest Moon Festival and Christmas in the Village. See other opportunities below:***

***Decorating*** -- Dakota City volunteers will be decorating the Village the weekends of Nov. 19 and 20 and Nov. 26 and 27 from 1 to 8 p.m. You can help by decorating Christmas trees and placing other trimmings inside and outside the buildings.

***Making music***-- Vocalists and other groups are wanted to sing and play in the Dakota City Church during Christmas in the Village weekends. Share your talent.

***Please call us***--If you can help decorate or provide music in the church, please call the Dakota City office at 651-460-8050.

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***Dakota County Agricultural Society***  
***Dakota City Heritage Village***  
***P.O. Box 73, Farmington MN 55024***  
Contact: [info@dakotacity.org](mailto:info@dakotacity.org) or call 651-460-8050.

<p><b>Non-Profit Org.</b> <b>U.S. Postage</b> <b>PAID</b> <b>Farmington, MN</b> <b>Permit No. 11</b></p>
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