

## Alive After 5 to draw attention to City Center

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**MANKATO**— Building off of the Songs on the Lawn popularity in June, the Mankato City Center Partnership is starting another weekly music series to draw attention to downtown.

Alive After 5 will be held in Jackson Park, next to The Free Press, from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. for four consecutive Thursdays through Oct. 1, beginning Thursday. Just like with Songs on the Lawn, a different band will perform each week and vendors will be set up for people to purchase food. Tow Distributing will also have a full bar set up to serve alcohol to those ages 21 and older.

“We wanted to do something that would carry into the evening and spur people to stay in the City Center,” said DeeDra Vosburg, chair of the marketing committee of the City Center Partnership.

By “City Center” Vosburg means downtown Mankato, including Front Street, Mankato Place, Riverfront Drive and other areas, including the Carnegie Art

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Center. It also includes Old Town and Belgrade Avenue in North Mankato.

Vosburg said, besides the food and entertainment, she hopes people will be encouraged to get out and walkaround downtown, pop into some of the bars and restaurants for live entertainment and food, and maybe do some shopping on Riverfront Drive.

Among the bands to be featured are Red Path, three country singing sisters, acoustic musician Brian Congdon, the Underachievers, a rock cover band, and local musicians the Minnesota Barking Ducks and City Mouse.

Vendors will include Dino's/ The Neighbor's, Olives, Pub 500 and Tav on the Ave.

Each night, two people will qualify to win a TV from Degrood's and free TV service from HickoryTech. The big drawing will be Oct. 1.

Next year City Center Partnership hopes to hold the event in Riverside Park.

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