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### Greater Mankato Growth Adds an Extra Date to Songs on the Lawn

Mankato, MINN (June 21, 2010) – This Thursday's Songs on the Lawn on **June 24** from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m., featuring music by Lost Walleye Orchestra, would typically be the last of the season. But because of the rain out of the event on June 10, Greater Mankato Growth (GMG) is extending this year's Songs on the Lawn season into July. The group that was to have played on June 10, Dazy Head Mazy (Accoustic Duo), will now perform on the additional Songs date - Thursday, **July 1**.

"Many individuals told us last week that they were disappointed they missed not being able to hear Dazy Head Mazy and enjoy everything else that makes Songs on the Lawn such a popular annual event," said GMG Special Events Director Liz Sharp.

Indeed, it may have been Sharp herself who was responsible for the first weather cancellation of Songs on the Lawn's seven year run. Having been with the Chamber of Commerce (the predecessor organization to GMG) since 1993, Sharp has participated in putting on Songs on the Lawn since its beginning and began running the event a few years. In that time, she has developed a reputation for always having good weather, not only for Songs, but any event she oversees—earning her the moniker "Little Miss Sunshine" around the GMG offices. On June 10, however, Sharp was out of the country.

"I don't know if it's fair to put all the responsibility for good weather on one person, but no one we conferred with can remember the event ever being rained out, that is until Liz left the country," joked GMG President & CEO Jonathan Zierdt. "Just to be on the safe side, we'll keep her here in the states until Songs is over. Not only does she literally seem to bring sunshine to the events she manages, but her "roll with it" attitude and positive approach make any event she runs a sunny experience for all involved."

Songs on the Lawn presented by Xcel Energy brings families, friends and business colleagues together in the City Center for lunchtime music by area groups, food sold by local vendors and fun activities for kids let by the YMCA. The event is held in Jackson Park (adjacent to The Free Press and Brett's buildings). Admission is free and so is parking in the Cherry Street and Civic Center ramps.

The 2010 Songs on the Lawn presented by Xcel Energy is sponsored by Charter, LJP Waste & Recycle, and Hot 96.7 and Minnesota 93 - members of Radio Mankato. For more info, visit [greatermankato.com/gmg-SongsontheLawn.php](http://greatermankato.com/gmg-SongsontheLawn.php).

#### About Greater Mankato Growth

Greater Mankato Growth (GMG) is committed to advancing business for a stronger community. As the Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development organization serving the regional marketplace, GMG advances business through: existing business support, new business growth, business promotion, talent development, public affairs, community marketing, visitor attraction and servicing and civic engagement.

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