



Brian J. Anderson
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TO: County Board of Commissioners
FROM: Brian J. Anderson, Goodhue County Auditor/Treasurer
SUBJECT: Declaration of "Ray Sands Day"
DATE: August 11, 2022

Background:

Ray Sands has been an integral figure in the Minnesota music scene for nearly 75 years and an important member of Goodhue County.

Discussion:

The Goodhue County Fair Board has created a resolution (attached) that Goodhue County and the Goodhue County Fair declare, August 12, 2022 as "Ray Sands Day."

Recommendation:

The Goodhue County Fair Board recommends the County Board declare, August 12, 2022, as "Ray Sands Day."

GOODHUE COUNTY BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS

LINDA FLANDERS
1st District
1121 West 4th Street
Red Wing, MN 55066

BRAD ANDERSON
2nd District
10679 375TH St. Way
Cannon Falls, MN 55009

TODD GRESETH
3rd District
46804 Hwy 57 Blvd.
Wanamingo, MN 55983

JASON MAJERUS
4th District
39111 County 2 Blvd.
Goodhue, MN 55027

SUSAN BETCHER
5th District
30133 Lakeview Ave
Red Wing, MN 55066

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Resolution Declaring August 12, 2022, as “Ray Sands Day” at the Goodhue County Fair

Ray Sands has been a fixture in the Minnesota music scene for nearly 75 years. In that time the name “Polka Dots” has meant Ray Sands, members of his family and friends from the community making dance music to the delight of thousands of dance and fun-loving people in southern Minnesota and beyond.

The Polka Dots have played at dance halls, community centers, parks and street dances too many times to list. Ray has taken his band to the national stages of the casual Prairie Home Companion and the prestigious stage of the Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts. He has taken the Polka Dots to Europe to share their talents and enthusiasm for old-time music with the continent. His music has made him an ambassador for Minnesota, Goodhue County and Wanamingo Township.

In recognition of his contribution to music and the community, Ray has been named to the Minnesota Music Hall of Fame and was named the 2020 Goodhue County Citizen of the Year.

Playing Rays’ favorite, “The Ping Pong Polka” and much more, Ray Sands and the Polka Dots have become a fixture at the Goodhue County Fair where his music is anticipated and danced to by fans of all ages.

It is with extraordinary pride and pleasure that Goodhue County and the Goodhue County Fair declare today, August 12, 2022, as “Ray Sands Day.”

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