

Brad Paisley



Lee Brice

Friday & Saturday,



June 10 & 11, 2016



Big & Rich with Cowboy Troy



Thomas Rhett



Tyler Farr



Parmalee



A Thousand Horses



Clare Dunn

Dylan Scott, Leah Turner, The Last Bandoleros, Maiden Dixie, Mitch Gordon and the Unleaded Band, Roadhouse 6, and 2 Mile Final

Winstock 2016 is brought to you by



Purchase Tickets Online at www.WinstockFestival.com or call 320-485-4287

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Friday, June 10 & Saturday, June 11 SCHEDULE

THURSDAY, JUNE 9

9 a.m. - 9 p.m. – Campgrounds open for admission
7 p.m. - 11 p.m. – Beer tent party with
music by 2 Mile Final

FRIDAY, JUNE 10

9:30 a.m. – Campgrounds open for admission
2:00 p.m. – Gates open for admission
4:30 p.m. – Mitch Gordon and the Unleaded Band
6:35 p.m. – A Thousand Horses
8:40 p.m. – Tyler Farr
10:45 p.m. – Lee Brice

Emerging Artist Stage

5:45 p.m. – Roadhouse 6
7:50 & 9:55 p.m. – Dylan Scott

SATURDAY, JUNE 11

9:30 a.m. – Gates open for admission
10:30 a.m. – Pre-show beer tent party,
with live music by Roadhouse 6
12:30 p.m. – Maiden Dixie
2:35 p.m. – Clare Dunn
4:40 p.m. – Parmalee
6:45 p.m. – Big & Rich with Cowboy Troy
8:30 p.m. – Winstock Raffle Drawing
8:50 p.m. – Thomas Rhett
10:30 p.m. – Brad Paisley

Emerging Artist Stage

1:45 & 5:55 p.m. - The Last Bandoleros
3:50 & 8 p.m. - Leah Turner

Artists and times subject to change without notice

WINSTOCK fans are encouraged to join us in honoring America each day before the concerts begin. Kim Pickar will sing the national anthem Friday at approximately 4:20 p.m. Rebecca and Melissa Moy will sing the national anthem Saturday at approximately 12:20 p.m. The national anthem will be sung from the main stage while members of the Minnesota National Guard's Military Funeral Honors Program presents the colors.

WELCOME!

WELCOME to the 23rd annual WINSTOCK Country Music Festival. We look forward to seeing you with your family and friends as you enjoy our star-studded country lineup and our Emerging Artist Stage, featuring some of the industry's hottest up-and-coming talent!

Winstock is one of the Upper Midwest's premier outdoor country music and camping festivals organized entirely by volunteers, with all proceeds from this event used to help fund private education for students from Winsted and surrounding communities. More than 1,000 people volunteer more than 5,000 hours to bring you the opportunity to enjoy country music's finest entertainment, food and fun. The Winstock committee and each student hopes you will have a great time at Winstock's 23rd anniversary celebration and thanks you for your continued support and patronage.

Winstock 2017

The dates for Winstock 2017 will be
Friday-Saturday, June 9-10, 2017.

Saturday Morning
BEER TENT PARTY
NEW GRAND PRIZE DRAWING
FOR EVERYONE!

Prize provided by:
Bernick Companies & Winstock

Facilities

Winstock Festival grounds offer a large concession area, beverage tent, medical and handicapped facilities, 24-hour security, primitive camping, country music vendors, and more. There is an ATM on site.

Location

Winstock is located adjacent to the Winsted Airport in Winsted, Minnesota. Winsted is located approximately 35 miles west of Minneapolis. If you travel west on Highway 7, turn north on McLeod County Road 1 for three miles, then turn west on McLeod County Road 5 and follow the signs. If you travel west on Highway 12, turn south on Wright County Road 6 (east side of Howard Lake) for seven miles, then turn west on McLeod County Road 5 and follow the signs.

Camping

Camping at Winstock has proven to be a great way to enjoy the festival atmosphere with family and friends. Winstock camping offers primitive sites (25' x 35') with no running water or electrical hookups. Fresh drinking water and ice will be available at the main campground. All campsites are by reservation and will be held for you. Shuttle buses to and from downtown Winsted will be provided Saturday. (see buses section) Camping sites for Winstock 2017 will be available for sale at this year's event.

No private biff-style portable toilets will be allowed in the campgrounds.

Tickets

Enjoy watching your favorite Winstock entertainers from our VIP Reserved Seating Section. Along with a great view of the stage and complimentary parking, VIP offers you a home cooked, hot meal each evening, along with beverages all weekend. Please get your order in early to guarantee your seat! Next year's VIP seats will be available for sale at this year's event.

Also available is reserved seating. Take it all in at Winstock from our all reserved seating section. Guaranteed numbered seat with premium view of music area.

General admission tickets are still a great way to enjoy all the entertainment but they do require you bring your own lawn chair.

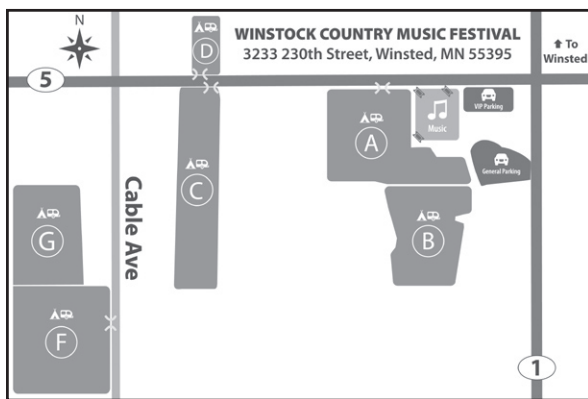
Please take time to visit Winstock's Emerging Artists Stage, which is a second stage at Winstock 2016.

Things to Bring

A lawn chair that you bring yourself is standard Winstock seating. Winstock will not be responsible for lost or stolen chairs. No chairs may be placed in the viewing area until the gates open Friday at 2 p.m. or Saturday at 9:30 a.m. The music area will be cleared of chairs nightly.

Gates

Gates will open Friday at 2 p.m. and Saturday at 9:30 a.m. In the event of inclement weather, the gate opening may be delayed. When entering through the main gates, you will exchange your ticket for a wristband. This wristband must be worn at all times. Just show your wristband each time you go through the gates.



WINSTOCK GPS Address:
3233 230th St.
Winsted, MN 55395

Pulltabs

will be available for sale near the Beer Tent at Winstock!

Rain or shine

In the event of inclement weather, the show will be interrupted and will resume as soon as weather permits. Tickets are sold on a "rain or shine" basis, and no refunds will be given for delays or cancellations due to bad weather.

Parking

Parking will cost \$10 per vehicle, per day while attending Winstock. Please follow the signs to designated areas. Motorcycle parking will be available near VIP parking.

Buses

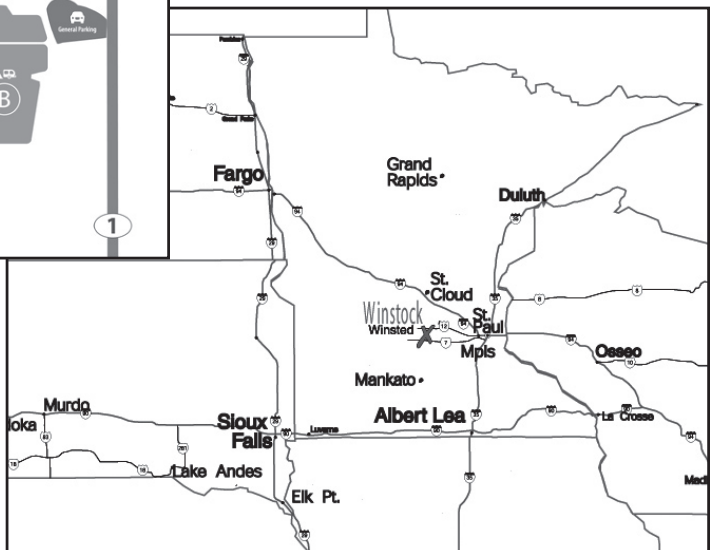
Bus service is available between the campgrounds and the festival site. There will also be shuttle bus service between Winstock and downtown Winsted Saturday only, from 7 to 11:30 a.m. Two buses will depart Winstock for downtown every half hour, stopping at SuperValu parking lot, downtown corner of 2nd and Main, the Blue Note, Casey's, and Subway.

All WINSTOCK 2016 promotional prizes donated by the following:

- Bernick Companies - Pepsi/Mtn Dew
- CR Electric • Carpentry Contractors Company
- Casey's General Store • Cokato Licensing
- Cowgirl Tuff/B Tuff • Crazi Coffee
- Eggert Law Office • Farm Rite Equipment
- Herald Journal • Holt Motors
- Locher Bros/Miller Lite
- Jeanne M. Matter CPA Ltd.
- Midwest Machinery • Sam's Club
- Security and Sound • Skydive the Lakes
- Hutchinson Co-op/Corner Market

Winstock is located:

1/2 mile south of Winsted, Minnesota
on McLeod Co. Rd. 5, just west of McLeod Co. Rd. 1.



WINSTOCK POLICIES

In order for all of us to have a safe and enjoyable weekend, everyone must abide by the following rules:

- In consideration for others, no umbrellas, lounge chairs, golf carts, or ATVs.
- **No guns are permitted anywhere on the WINSTOCK grounds.**
- WINSTOCK is not responsible for lost or stolen tickets, personal injury or loss, theft, or damage to personal property.
- Please be aware of your surroundings, as WINSTOCK assumes no liability if you become injured.
- WINSTOCK has the right to inspect persons or parcels.
- All campfires must be in self-contained units, subject to Fire Marshal approval, when conditions are approved by the Fire Marshal.
- Food or beverages may not be brought into the music area.
- All chairs must be removed from the music area after the last performance. Please have your name on your chair.
- Must be 21 or older to purchase or consume alcoholic beverages in any WINSTOCK area. Violators will be ejected.
- No keg beer or large amounts of alcohol in any WINSTOCK area.
- Must be 18 or older to purchase a camping permit.
- People in the campgrounds must wear a concert wrist band at all times. No one is permitted on Winstock grounds without a valid wrist band.

- No audio or video taping of any kind is permitted.
- Quiet time in the campgrounds will be enforced from 11 am – 7 am. This also includes electrical generators.
- No animals allowed.
- Persons violating policies will be ejected and may be subject to prosecution.
- No refunds to anyone ejected for rule violations.
- By attending WINSTOCK, you acknowledge and agree that your photo may be used in future promotional materials.
- Please carry a picture ID with you at all times.
- No couches or furniture allowed in camping area.
- No tailgating in WINSTOCK parking areas.
- No riding in backs of pickups.
- No drones allowed over the Winstock grounds.
- Beacon usage is prohibited on all Winstock grounds.
- Due to safety and insurance concerns, no outside food or beverage will be allowed into the concert area during the Thursday night beer tent party.
- Camping/parking pass must be displayed on vehicles at all times.
- No live music stage shows or any activity in the campgrounds that promotes large gatherings, selling or distributing alcoholic beverages, and any other soliciting.

VEHICLE RULES

All vehicles must fit in your campsite and have appropriate vehicle permit. Only one sleeping unit and vehicle per site.

WINSTOCK '16 RADIO NETWORK

- * KEEY (K102) - Minneapolis 102.1 FM
- * KZPK (Wild Country 99) - St. Cloud 98.9 FM
- * KATO - Mankato 93.1 FM
- * KBLB - Brainerd 93.3
- * KIK-FM - Alexandria 100.7 FM
- * KASM - Albany 1150 AM
- * KRWC - Buffalo 1360 AM
- * KQAD - Luverne 800 AM
- * US104 - Worthington 104.3 FM
- * KARP - Hutchinson 106.9 FM
- * KDOM - Windom 1580 AM
- * KDJS - Willmar 95.3 FM
- * KRVY - Willmar 97.3 FM
- * KWWK - Rochester 96.5 FM
- * KQQAQ - Albert Lea 970 AM
- * KLOH - Pipestone 1050 AM
- * KLOV - Olivia 100.1 FM
- * KDUZ - Hutchinson 1260 AM

- * KBEW - Blue Earth 98.1 FM
- * KWNO - Winona 1380 AM
- * K-COUNTRY - Fergus Falls 96.5 FM
- * KCZE - Mason City, IA 95.1 FM
- * KSMA - Mason City, IA 93.9 FM
- * KICD - Spencer, IA 107.7 FM
- * KFGO - Fargo, ND 790 AM
- * KKQQ - Brookings, SD 102.3 FM
- * KTWB - Sioux Falls, SD 101.9 FM
- * WNAX - Yankton, SD 104.1 FM
- * KBMW - Wahpeton, SD 1450 AM

The Winstock 2016 Radio Network is a group of radio stations from Minnesota and across the Midwest that assists in promoting Winstock. Winstock encourages you to listen to these stations for great country music!



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WINSTOCK '16 CONTESTS

Campsite Decorating

2016 Theme:

"Country Nation"

Plan ahead and be prepared to decorate your campsite according to this year's criteria.

New in 2016, there is going to be ONE grand prize only, sponsored by Midwest Machinery, and will be awarded to the overall best-decorated campsite based on this year's theme.

Decorate your campsites according to the Brad Paisley hit, "Country Nation." We want you to take us back to your roots and show off your favorite school or your hometown.

In addition to the overall grand prize, one honorable mention may be awarded at judges' discretion.

All participants MUST register by 9 p.m. Friday, June 10 to be considered for judging. Registration will take place at the Winstock Information Tent from the time the gates open Friday until 9 p.m. Judging will take place Saturday morning and winners will be posted by 1 p.m. Saturday afternoon at the Winstock Information Tent. In the event of inclement weather, WINSTOCK will conduct a random drawing of registered participants to award the campsite



decorating contest prizes. The drawing will be held at noon.

Please present photo ID to claim prize.

No double winners.

Judges' decisions are FINAL!

Mini-Biff Promotion

Five radio stations across Minnesota are giving away a padlock to a portable restroom. Each portable restroom will be used exclusively by each contest winner for the weekend, will have the radio station's call letters, and a surprise bag that can be picked up at the Winstock Information Tent. This is a contest taking place prior to Winstock 2016.

For your chance to win your own portable restroom at Winstock 2016, listen to:

K102, Minneapolis, 102.1 FM; KATO, Mankato, 93 FM; WILD Country 99, St. Cloud 98.9 FM; KARP, Hutchinson, 106.9 FM; WILD Country 99, and Winona 99.3 FM.

Portable restrooms for this contest are donated by Mini-Biff of Hutchinson.

Pre-show Beer Tent Bash

The annual Pre-show Beer Tent Bash will take place Saturday at 10:30 a.m., prizes included, with music by Roadhouse 6. This special promotion will consist of two-for-one beverage specials, prizes, and surprises. No double prizes will be awarded. Your name can and will be drawn only once. New in 2016, everyone who participates will be eligible for a grand prize drawing, sponsored by Bernick Companies and Winstock. All names drawn will be included for the grand prize drawing.

APPEARING AT WINSTOCK '16

An old soul with a young spirit . . . a dreamer who imagined himself following his father's path to Nashville . . . a man's man with a lifelong love for hunting and country music . . . and a heartthrob whose wide smile and deep-voiced Louisiana drawl have already turned many a woman's head.

Even in the tide of hopeful young singers rising daily in Music City, Dylan Scott stands out. It takes just a few seconds to hear why: after Scott's vocal begins on his single "Crazy Over Me," intimate, even conversational, and then soars on a rush of buoyant emotion, you know something special is underway.

Not just the single, mind you - we're talking about a career. Scott's respect for traditional country, embrace of multiple modern genres, unique voice and welcoming personality guarantee his success in country music.

Everything that defines Dylan Scott lies in rural northeastern Louisiana, about 15 minutes from Bastrop, the nearest small town.

"Growing up in the country is part of my music," Scott said. "There were woods near our house. I grew up duck hunting and deer hunting. I went fishing and I played ball. That's just what we did and who we were."

What made Scott different was that his father was often out of town and on the road, playing guitar behind Freddy Fender, Freddie Hart, and other country stars. Young Dylan listened attentively to stories of Dad's adventures on the road and in Nashville, which took shape in his imagination as a kind of Emerald City beyond the horizon.

"From as far back as I can remember, I wanted to go there," Scott said. "Even in elementary school, that's all I thought about. I never thought, 'Gee, I'd like to be a police officer' or whatever. There was always this understanding that someday, somehow, I would go to Nashville."



Dylan Scott

EMERGING ARTIST STAGE

FRIDAY 7:50 & 9:55 PM • www.dylanscottcountry.com

 @DylanScottCntry

Right out of high school, Scott made the move. Just before turning 19, Scott accepted a contract from Curb Records and began recording.

Scott's next big step is just around the corner. Stand by - there's much more to come.





The Last Bandoleros

EMERGING ARTIST STAGE

SATURDAY 1:45 & 5:55 PM • thelastbandoleros.com

🐦 @lastbandoleros

Ever since the members of San Antonio-forged, Tex-Mex/Pop-Rock outfit The Last Bandoleros can remember,

Leah Turner has a ready laugh that conveys all the joy and adventure she finds in life, and a voice with the power and grit to personify its ups and downs. The combination makes her one of country's most compelling new artists, someone with the talent and personality to own any stage – or studio – she walks onto. It earned her a spot on Winstock '16 headliner Brad Paisley's 2014 tour and made her first single, her co-penned track "Take the Keys," a Top 40 hit at country radio.

Her love of music brought her from her native California to Nashville.

"I packed up my truck, drove cross-country with my best girlfriend, and then slept in a room on an air mattress for about 8 months," Turner said. "I was walking dogs, living on almost nothing – I never knew \$100 could stretch so far – and not seeing my mom and dad, that's hard."

She began upping her commitment to an already strong songwriting talent, playing the city's writers' nights, when her stand out vocals, self-penned songs, and unparalleled charisma turned a meeting with Sony Music Nashville into an on-the-spot record deal.

Turner's distinctive voice and fiery personality make her unlike anyone on the current scene, and both are outgrowths of a life journey that could have led nowhere but Nashville. It began on the ranch where she grew up, the daughter of a rodeo champion, in California's Morongo Valley. She was just 3 when she began sitting at her grandmother's piano, trying with her little fingers to make real chords. When she was 5, her family bought her a piano – she still has it – and by 6, she had written her first song.

"You build memories around songs," she said.

Her love of music stayed strong through lessons that balanced life on the ranch and led eventually to a college songwriting class, where her talent won her the attention of Kenny Loggins, who encouraged her to move to Los Angeles. There, she met and worked with music legends Humberto

they've been surrounded by dynamic and diverse musical influences. From Diego's early Rock 'n' Roll collection and the Tex-Mex music of his father to the Country-Blues of Jerry's guitar instructors and Derek's Jangly Brit-Rock records, the sounds around the members of The Last Bandoleros have always had an urgency and emphasis on songs and songwriting.

It's no wonder that when Diego Navaira (bass and vocals) and Jerry Fuentes (guitar and vocals) — both raised in the studios and vibrant live scene of San Antonio — joined with New York native Derek James (guitar and vocals) to form The Last Bandoleros, their combined experiences led them to create a compelling, contemporary American sound.

Joined by a button accordionist on stage, The Last Bandoleros mesh 1 part Tex-Mex, 1 part Brit-Pop and 2 parts Country/Rock, to write and perform driving songs brimming with melody informed by a unique amalgam of influences that only young Americans growing up a stone's throw away from the Rio Grande might have absorbed.

"I grew up idolizing Texas legends Dough Sahm and Flaco Jimenez," said Jerry, "and, at the same time, wanted to learn every song in the Rock canon, including The Beatles and The Eagles."

"My dad [GRAMMY-award winning Conjunto superstar Emilio Navaira, Sr.] turned me on to Van Halen and ZZ Top," added Diego, "but I was obviously surrounded by Tejano music since birth."

The Last Bandoleros lead single "Where Do You Go?" is already being praised by press and industry alike.

The Last Bandoleros combine their unique cultural experiences with a rare musical camaraderie to deliver exuberance and joy both essential and contagious. And, in today's fast-moving world of instantaneous information and converging influences, their original yet universal sound might just be best labeled "great music."



Leah Turner

EMERGING ARTIST STAGE

SATURDAY 3:50 & 8 PM • leahturner.com

🐦 @leahturnermusic

Gatica and David Foster, but the foundation country music built in her heart and soul tugged too strongly for her to remain on the West Coast and, with that, she booked a one-way ticket to Music City.

Her latest single, "Cowboy's Love," is available at iTunes.

A Thousand Horses

MAIN STAGE

FRIDAY 6:35 PM • athousandhorses.com

[@athousandhorses](https://twitter.com/athousandhorses)

Drive across the rural South with the window down and the radio on. Hit scan and listen as muscular country, drawling rock, high gospel harmony, low-country blues and old school soul meld together into something special and distinct.

That's the sound of A Thousand Horses and the exciting new band's debut, *Southernality*. The 13-track Dave Cobb-produced album was released one year ago, and the Republic Nashville group already has hits with the first single "Smoke" and its follow-up "(This Ain't No) Drunk Dial." Fans have responded to the unique hypnotic songs in a way that shows the band's all-genre mix of classic influences remains in the DNA of young music fans in the digital age.

"Subconsciously, our audience grew up listening to those albums that we all love too and the reaction so far has just been exciting," lead singer Michael Hobby said. "To me, country music's always been cool. I grew up on it. There's a wider audience now. The lane seems to be a little bit wider for artists like Eric Church and Jason Aldean to push boundaries. People call it Southern rock or people call it country or people call it rock 'n' roll. To me it just feels like it's all just music now."

Hobby is joined in the creative core of A Thousand Horses by guitarists Bill Satcher and Zach Brown and bassist Graham DeLoach. Their friendship and similar interests have helped them create a distinct swamp boogie that fits right in with country music's current party paradigm.

"Smoke," which set a record for the highest debut by a new act when it opened at No. 28 on the Country Aircheck radio chart, offers a perfect entry point to the vibe as Hobby sings about a woman's intoxicating presence in his life.

"I think a lot of people are relating it to their lives," Brown said. "We're seeing a lot of people post the lyrics on social media. I think 'Smoke,' lyrically, in my opinion, it's a really good story. I think it's one of



my favorite lyrical songs on the album. It's easy for people to take those lyrics and apply it to something in their lives."

The song's power comes from the band's chemistry, which was evident even in the earliest days when Hobby and Satcher met while checking out guitars at the only music store in Newberry, South Carolina. DeLoach, first cousins with Satcher, entered the picture while visiting from Georgia during summers and holidays.

The trio moved to Nashville because it seemed like the natural place for their sound and soon invited friend of a friend Brown to join. They all lived together at first, writing songs, mapping out an ambitious approach.

"The whole concept behind this thing is we're a big band," Satcher said. "We wanted to showcase the whole thing. I think we're able to paint the picture of certainly what it's like on the album, the full vision we had when we wrote these songs."

Southernality is complete and their deal on an imprint that's a partnership between the world's largest record label, Universal Music Group, and the Big Machine Label Group, home to Taylor Swift, Tim McGraw, and Florida Georgia Line, places them in a position to succeed.

"It's been five years, all just traveling in a van around the country, sharing food and sleeping in that thing," Hobby said.

"We had a period where we were back to Square 1," Brown said. "What do we do? Do we call it quits or do we keep going? This is what we do."

Some hits from A Thousand Horses

- "Smoke"
- "(This Ain't No) Drunk Dial"
- "Southernality"

4 Locations to Serve You!

Your
#1
Choice

Winsted Laundromat & Car Wash

381 3rd St. S. — across from the Blue Note

Cokato Laundromat & Car Wash

385 Cokato St. W. — across from the Marketplace

2 Hutchinson Laundromat & Car Wash Locations

1025 Hwy. 7 — across from the Best Western
(Tanning available)

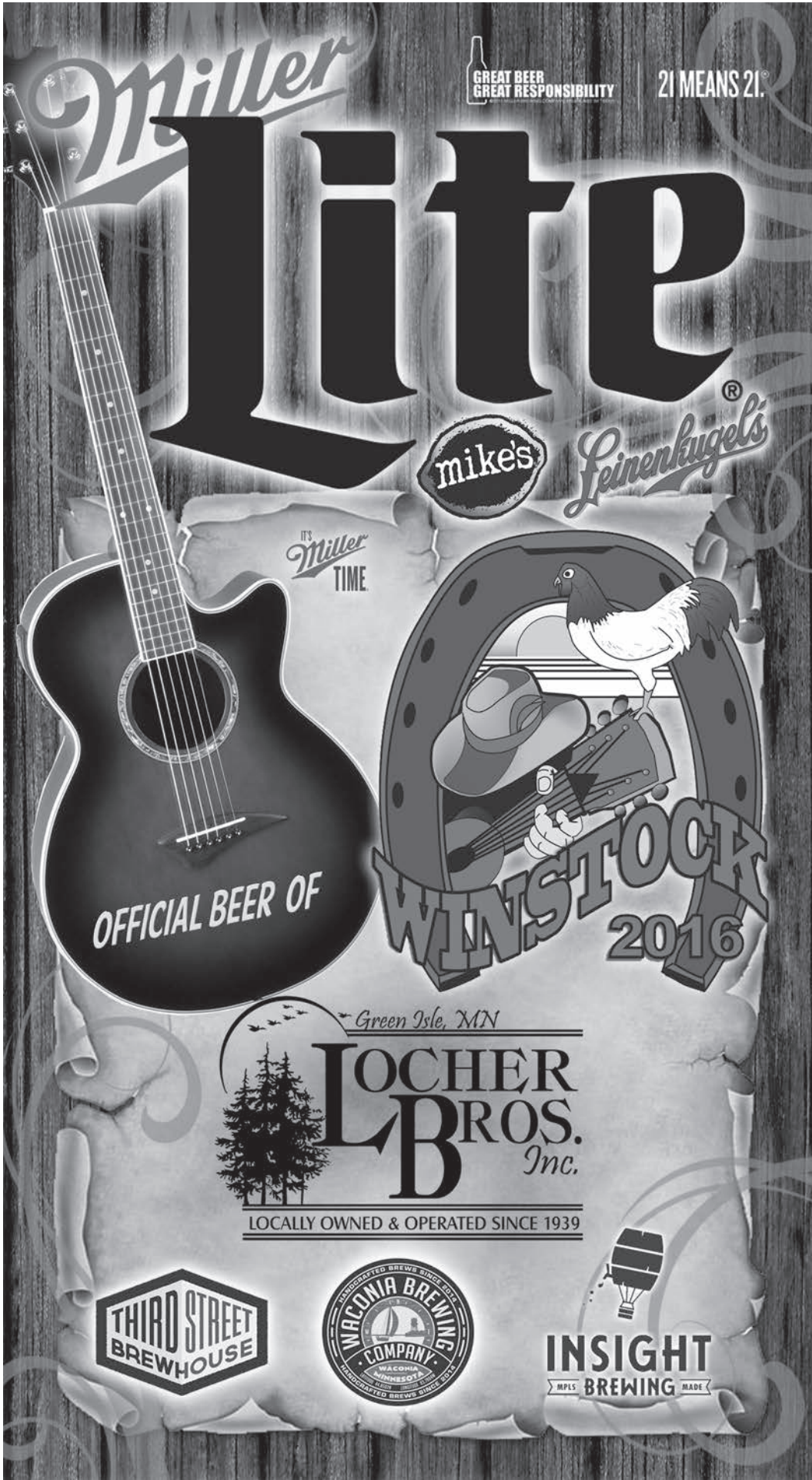
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Tyler Farr

MAIN STAGE

FRIDAY 8:40 PM • tylerfarr.com

@tylerfarr

Tyler Farr's a thinker, an observer of the human condition, a man in the middle of a surging testosterone country movement in today's Nashville who insists on digging a little deeper and owning how hard it can be. On his second Columbia Nashville offering, *Suffer In Peace*, the son of a Garden City, Missouri farmer opens his veins and examines the pain that comes from being truly engaged with living.

With a resonant tenor that has a powdery bottom and a warm center, Farr heats up difficult emotions and peels back what most men barricade behind bravado.

One listen to "A Guy Walks Into A Bar," Suffer's lead single, is to hear the tension, the exhaustion and the devastation that comes with a stiff upper lip. It falters just a bit, buckles and throws unspeakable pain wide open, without going for melodrama as he transforms the joke into a punchline that is the hero's life.

"I could sing you heartbreak ballads for over an hour and a half," laughs the easy-talking Farr. "I have a lot of heartbreak ballads, because I think there's a lot more heartbreak than happily ever after . . . But happily ever after is still what keeps you going after it."

His affinity for hard country and honky-tonk comes from an even more bedrock place: his parents. Following behind his father's tractor raking the hay on the 150 acres he raised cattle on, Farr was raised on Ronnie Milsap, Conway Twitty's "She's Got A Single Thing In Mind," Vince Gill's "I Still Believe In You" and Sammy Kershaw's "Politics, Religion & Her" – and his Mom, an aspiring singer who loved Dan Seals' "Bop." His mother ended up married to George Jones' touring guitarist, which pulled Farr right up to the bumper of one of country's greatest raw lightning vocalists, as well as being exposed to Merle Haggard, Vern Gosdin, and Gene Watson.

Farr's way was paved with the prestigious OAKE National Choir and years of formal voice training. But the high road didn't appeal. At 21, he made his way to Nashville to try his hand at being a star.

"I saw guys who'd been there for 10 years and nothing had happened," Farr said of the sobering reality. "I got there, thinking I've got an album . . . I'm gonna be a star. It cost me \$25,000. It was a total mess. I got a job at Tootsies, first day passing out flyers. I was a bar back. I'd pull sets playing for tips when they'd let me . . . and I swear that was the best hamburger in the South!"



In true country-boy-can-survive spirit, while Farr was waiting on his shot, he did what was necessary. Physical labor, parking cars, short order cooking, landscaping, singing demos, construction work, recreational therapist, and working in a halfway house for children. Then, fate stepped in when country-rapper Colt Ford was looking for a background singer. Farr was looking to make it happen for himself.

"Colt called me personally, and said, 'I know you're trying to make it. Take the job. I'll let you open for me.'"

Just as importantly, the gig opened doors and Farr's eyes.

"I learned a whole lot that year out on the road, singing 'Dirt Road Anthem' before Jason (Aldean) ever cut it. Dreaming every damn night, learning the ropes."

Farr was just getting started. He toured incessantly: Florida Georgia Line, Luke Bryan, Lee Brice, Jason Aldean, festivals, dive bars. A working class country singer, he was trying to get people to hear his songs. Ultimately his debut sold well over six figures, but more importantly, the time staring the fans in the face solidified his take on what he wanted his kind of country to be. It is the good; it is the bad. Mostly, it is the real.

"I think most of us are fighting the good and the evil sides of who we are. I'm a good person, but I genuinely like people. You get out having fun, one thing leads to another, you flirt with that line and it can get real thin.

"That's the truth about life. There's always that other side, and it's not black and white. It's not that easy. I'm a simple person, but inside, I might be complicated."

Some hits from Tyler Farr

- "Better in Boots"
- "A Guy Walks Into a Bar"
- "Whiskey in My Water"
- "Redneck Crazy"

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EXCAVATING

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Cowboy Troy joins the Winstock party

A 6-foot 5-inch hick-hop artist is going to get a response, and Cowboy Troy is okay with the strong reactions and endless questions.

"I have crazy intentions," he said with a grin. Cowboy Troy rapped his way into the country mainstream on the first cut of Big & Rich's 2004 debut *Horse Of A Different Color*.

And while his admonition to "let go of all your preconceived notions" certainly wasn't the first time elements of rap had been incorporated into country, it was the boldest statement yet.

Troy Coleman spent his childhood in Ft. Worth, where his dad took him to rodeos and stock shows.

"We'd listen to Willie Nelson, Jerry Reed, Charlie Daniels, Kenny Rogers, and other artists who were getting airplay on the adult contemporary stations at that time," Troy said. "I didn't realize



Cowboy Troy will join the Big & Rich show Saturday, June 11 at Winstock. This year marks Troy's second appearance at Winstock.

it was country music, I just knew it was what my parents listened to before they went to work in the morning."

Troy spent his high school years in Dallas and collegiate years in Austin, Texas at the University of Texas. He knows he's challenging conventional thinking about what country music is, but expects that his music will find its place.

"I've never been like everybody else and it wouldn't do me any good to try," he said. "Some people are going to love it and some are going to hate it, which is probably how it should be, because it means they're talking."

The way Troy sees it, "innovation is a tradition, not a trend or secondary option . . . authenticity comes in the commitment."

In addition to solo releases [*Loco Motive* (2005), *Black in the Saddle* (2007), and *Demolition Mission* (2009)], Troy has spent time on TV. He's been a part of the ESPN College Gameday video intro along with Big & Rich since the 2006 football season.

His appearance in Big & Rich's "Save a Horse, Ride a Cowboy" video, as well as his own "I Play Chicken With the Train" and "Hick Chick" videos remind viewers of his "party starter" nature. Troy calls Warner Music Nashville his recording home.

His latest installment of music, "King of Clubs," was released March 11, 2014.

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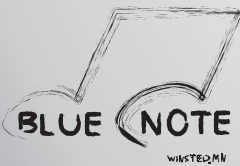
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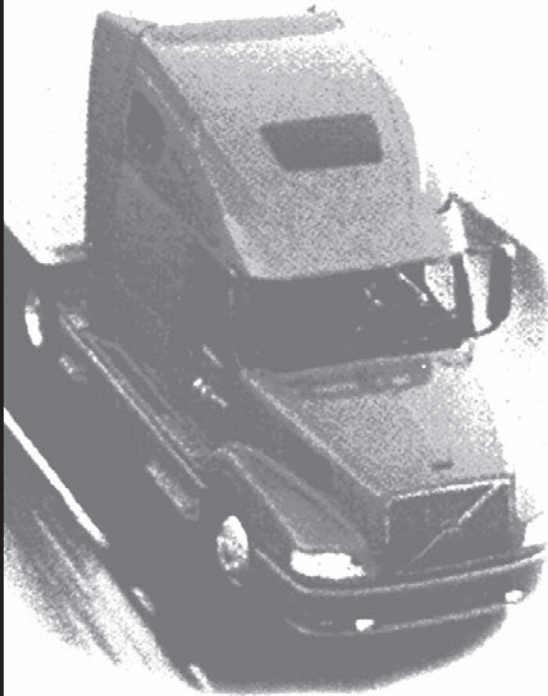
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Lee Brice

MAIN STAGE

FRIDAY 10:45 PM • leebrice.com

 @leebrice

Lee Brice is a craftsman, the kind whose boundless desire to hone his skills and relentless pursuit of perfection are matched only by his humility about the entire process. His latest album, *I Don't Dance*, is a showcase for his painstaking approach to writing and recording, with his distinctive fingerprints clearly emblazoned on every element of the album. Brice is now known as reliable chart topping Nashville hit-maker whose 2014 performance on the Academy of Country Music telecast, where he picked up the trophy for "Song of the Year," – "stole the show" (USA Today). There was a time when he was only recognized for his work behind the scenes.

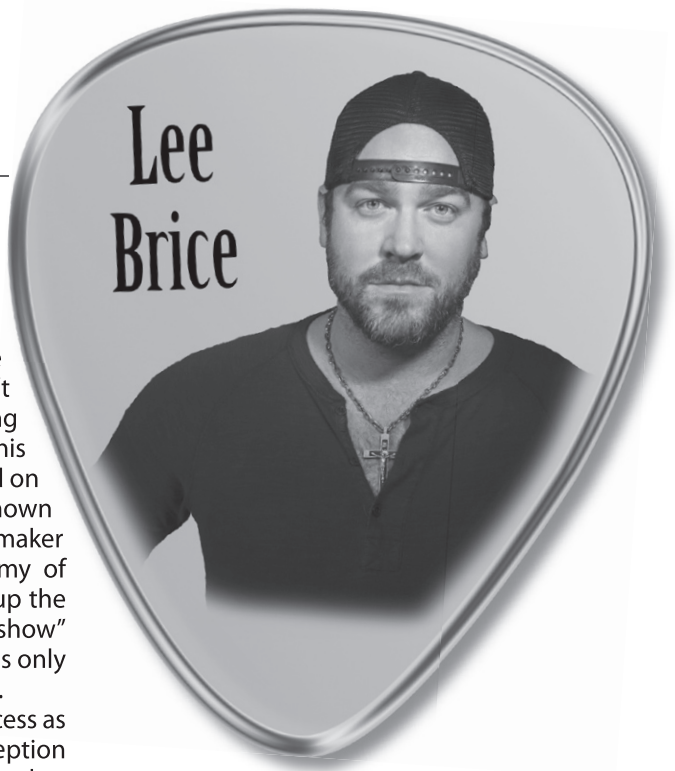
"I had success as a writer before I had success as an artist," said Brice, "so there's a misconception that I was a songwriter first and then started to sing my own songs later. But, all along, I've really always been writing for myself. When I started writing songs at 10 years old, it was because I wanted to sing them, and when I came to Nashville, I came to be a songwriter and a singer. It's all one thing to me."

After relocating from his native South Carolina to Music City, the former Clemson lineman dove headfirst into his craft, writing on his own and with a slew of talented musicians he fell in with. He found early success, with songs picked up by established artists like Jason Aldean and Keith Gattis. Though they may have been sung by other artists, those songs were stories from deep within Lee's own heart.

"More Than A Memory" was a very personal song for me," he said of his breakout 2007 track. "I was thinking about keeping it for myself when Garth Brooks called, and that changed the whole dynamic."

It changed a whole lot of things. Brooks' recording of the track was the first single in the history of the Billboard Hot Country Songs Chart to debut at number one. Lee's stock skyrocketed in Nashville, and that same year, he signed with Curb Records and began laying the groundwork for his inexorable rise as a solo artist.

He released his debut album, *Love Like Crazy*, in 2009. The title track reached number three on the Billboard Country chart and set a record as the longest-charting song in that chart's history. In 2012, he topped his own success with *Hard 2 Love*, an album that went Gold and featured three number-one country singles, including "I Drive Your Truck," which won Song of the Year at both the CMA and ACM Awards. The record earned raves from NPR to *Country Weekly*, and found the *New York Times* hailing him as "a sensitive macho



man," a compliment that perfectly encapsulates both sides of Brice's persona. *Hard 2 Love* also garnered Lee his late-night debut, a stirring performance of "I Drive Your Truck" on NBC's "The Tonight Show." "On my first record, I had all these ideas and sounds I didn't know how to get out of me," Brice remembers, crediting frequent collaborator Doug Johnson with helping him learn some of the early ropes of recording. "On *Hard 2 Love*, I figured out that I could really step out and try things in the studio, and if they don't work they don't work, but sometimes those ideas become the basis of how you record some tracks."

Brice took it a step further on *I Don't Dance*, relishing the role of producer with a flair for experimentation as yet another way to mold and shape his songs to match the sounds he'd been chasing in his head.

"I wanted to have control over every drumbeat, every lick of the bass part," he explains of his meticulous approach in the studio. "It was a lot of really sitting down and thinking about every little piece that goes into it."

Some hits from Lee Brice

- "That Don't Sound Like You"
- "Drinking Class"
- "I Don't Dance"
- "Parking Lot Party"
- "I Drive Your Truck"
- "Hard to Love"
- "A Woman Like You"
- "Love Like Crazy"



2 Mile Final is a country rock/southern rock band entertaining throughout the midwest.

The diversity of three excellent vocalists enables them to cover just about any sound from the newest country rock of Jason Aldean, Miranda Lambert, Kenny Chesney, Keith Urban, Sugarland, and Montgomery Gentry, to the southern rock of The Kentucky HeadHunters and Lynyrd Skynyrd and classics like Dwight Yokum and Johnny Cash.

2 Mile Final has quickly become one of the premiere country rock'n shows in the region. Their high-energy show is great at entertaining a crowd, and they love the interaction with the audience needed to keep the party exciting and make every performance into "The Party Heard Around The World"

Their newest hit singles "Blingy Butt Jeans" and "Cowgirl In Me" are hitting the airwaves.

From dancing in the aisles to singing a ballad to a member of the audience, there is never a dull moment at a 2 Mile Final concert. Both female and male vocalists with a fun song list and stage show add up to a fun time.



2 Mile Final

BEER TENT

THURSDAY 7 PM • 2milefinal.com



Mitch Gordon and the Unleaded Band

MAIN STAGE

FRIDAY 4:30 PM • theunleadedband.com

 @MitchGordonBand

Mitch Gordon & the Unleaded Band is a Minnesota-based regional country group from the middle of Minnesota, marking their original products as well as playing country covers from the great country kickers.

The band has a seven-song EP album released in June 2014 titled "Top Shelf."

The album title is based on a song Mitch's brother and him wrote about their grandfather and father.

"My grandpa was a farmer and my dad sold booze for a living," Gordon said.

The band released a new single titled "One Go Around" in July 2015. The album and single are currently getting FM radio play weekly on Minnesota, Iowa, and Missouri stations.

The five-piece group offers a four-piece harmony, and having a few young men and a gal, the energy is always at a high but respectable and mature level.

The band's home is in Minnesota but it ventures across the Midwest, including Illinois, Michigan, Wisconsin, South Dakota, Iowa, and has even performed in Las Vegas for the National Finals Rodeo.

Winstock's Emerging Artist Stage

The Emerging Artist Stage made its debut at Winstock in 2005, providing sets from Nashville's hottest up-and-coming artists between main stage performances.

Some of the artists who have graced the Emerging Artist Stage include Sugarland ('05), Little Big Town ('06), Lady Antebellum ('08), and Randy Houser ('09).

Roadhouse 6 is made up of seasoned area musicians and the top new talent that perform hard-hitting new country.

They have been together since 2012 and recently added two great new lead vocalists early this year.

Roadhouse 6 features: Kayla Rae on lead vocals, one of the area's most dynamic new performers, influenced by Miranda Lambert, Jennifer Nettles, and Janis Joplin; Jake Nelson, a new singer songwriter on lead vocals and guitar, who just released his first solo album, *Full Swing*, and is influenced by a wide variety of artists from Frank Sinatra to Thomas Rhett and Parmalee; John Sautter on lead and backing vocals and drums, a veteran of local bands such as Bordertown and Wylee; Brad Wiggins on bass, who has performed in a variety of regional bands, including Second Flight, Wheelock Parkway, and Wylee; Andy Distal on lead guitar, who was in Bordertown, and also performed on Jake's solo album; and Tyler Sautter on lead and backing vocals, and guitar, a veteran of barbershop quartets and other vocal competitions.



Roadhouse 6

EMERGING ARTIST STAGE & BEER TENT

FRIDAY 5:45 PM & SATURDAY 10:30 AM • roadhouse6.com

 @Roadhouse6band



Maiden Dixie

MAIN STAGE

SATURDAY 12:30 PM • maidendixie.com

 @MaidenDixieBand

It has been an amazing period for the six members of the Minneapolis-based Maiden Dixie.

April 2015 saw the release of *Unsafe & Sound*, their critically acclaimed sophomore studio project that spent the first two weeks following its release on the iTunes New and Noteworthy Contemporary Country featured release list.

Notable tracks, "Honest Man's Wage," "Bullets In The Gun," and "The Road" from *Unsafe & Sound* become programmers' favorites on radio outlets

across the US and Europe.

In addition to a full slate of YouTube videos, the band released two music videos. The music video for "The Road," Maiden Dixie's first full-length concept video, was directed by Zack Dyer and was programmed on multiple music video channels and outlets across the country and viewed over 100,000 times on the Maiden Dixie YouTube channel.

Maiden Dixie performed over 100 live concerts on their *Unsafe & Sound* Tour.

The band's first Christmas single, "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" was released to country radio, garnering extensive airplay and accolades, including a *DisCover* Award from Robert K. Oermann in his *Music Row Magazine* DISCLAIMER column.

And Maiden Dixie still found the time to return to the studio to record their latest release, *Wrecked*.

Working with producer Mako Johnson and engineer Eric Blomquist, the EP once again highlights the songwriting of Channing Himes and Jonathan Krentz, the vocals of Jesse Becker, and the incredible musicianship of Zachary Scanlan, Tyler Kloewer and Andrew "Tank" Sherman.

Wrecked takes the signature kinetic blend of country, pop and rock that Maiden Dixie unveiled on *Unsafe & Sound*, packs it with great new songs, and turns up the heat.

It begins with "Freedom Feels Like," their ode to the joy of breaking free, and then goes into the first notes of the haunting "The Whiskey'll Miss Me." Next is the lighthearted commentary on surrendering to the addiction of love in "Today Ain't It," which slides right into the searing guitar and soaring vocals of "Wildcard." *Wrecked* takes the fans of real music on a rollercoaster ride through the human condition . . . and what other country band gives you songs with bongos and a theremin?



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Clare Dunn

MAIN STAGE

SATURDAY 2:35 PM • claredunn.com

🐦 @ClareDunnMusic

Born on a farm in Southeast Colorado near the Oklahoma panhandle, Clare Dunn's roots run deep in the heart of Dust Bowl country. Working cattle, hauling water, driving combines, tractors and 18-wheelers were all part of Clare's everyday life from a young age. When your closest neighbor is six miles away, and many hours are spent behind the wheel of a John Deere tractor on the family farm, a strong work ethic becomes ingrained in your soul. While burning up miles hauling water to cattle, Clare dreamed of creating her own music.

Clare would drive 45 miles to school each day, and listening to country music became a part of her daily routine. She achieved All-State basketball and volleyball recognition in high school, and after graduating in a class of eight, Clare's chance to fully pursue her dream of a music career came with college. After a brief stint at a small college in Texas, and with the help of a very supportive family, Clare relocated to Nashville to attend Belmont University. She paid her way through college by driving a silage truck for harvest through Oklahoma, Kansas and Nebraska during every academic break. During the long hauls across the Midwest, she picked up a guitar for the first time, determined to master both acoustic and electric guitars.

After graduating from Belmont University with honors, Dunn signed her first publishing deal as a songwriter and hasn't looked back. Involved with every aspect that goes into the creative process, from writing her debut single, "Get Out," with co-writer and producer Ben West, to playing guitars on the track, to singing background vocals for some of Nashville's finest, including Luke Bryan's smash hit "Country Girl (Shake It For Me)," Clare's music is a true representation of all the things that make her who she is - a farm girl with a vision and sound forged from life experiences with a deep passion for her dreams.

Clare's innate songwriting abilities have allowed her to earn a name for herself in the songwriting community. She has written with some of the most highly regarded songwriters in both Nashville and LA, including Hillary Lindsey, Blair Daly, David Hodges, Troy Verges, Liz Rose, Angelo, Terry McBride, Brice Long, Will Hoge, Chris Lindsey, Tommy Lee James, Dylan Altman, Marshall Altman and more. Most recently, a song she co-wrote, titled "Farm Life," was recorded by Colt Ford and featured Justin Moore. The track is included on Ford's latest album, Thanks For Listening. Dunn is currently signed to a worldwide publishing agreement with BMG/Chrysalis.

In addition to making a name for herself in the songwriting community, Clare has become a



seasoned touring performer. She has opened for some of the format's biggest stars, including Keith Urban, Florida Georgia Line, Colt Ford, Hank Jr., Jamey Johnson and others, including American Rock icon Bob Seger. She has also played at a variety of major fairs and festivals across the country.

2014 proved to be a successful year for Clare as her debut single "Get Out" made her the highest charting independent female artist on the Music Row Country Breakout chart in 10 years.

Shortly after, she was featured on the cover of USA Today. The article, "Country Lassos 'Fresh Voices,'" discussed her inclusion as one of SiriusXM's Fresh Female Voices and announced her new single, "Cowboy Side Of You," which is currently airing exclusively on SiriusXM The Highway.

Most recently, Clare signed with renowned record label Universal Music Group Nashville. She was also named by USA Today, Boston Globe, Billboard and leading Country music website, Roughstock, as "One To Watch" in 2015 and Music Row Magazine also named Dunn as one of the publications, "Next Big Thing."

Dunn has traveled an unconventional path, but with her undeniable talent and the attention she's already receiving, it's clear that she is here to stay and that the best is yet to come.

See interview with Clare Dunn on page 34.

Some hits from Clare Dunn

- "Get Out"
- "Move On"
- "Cowboy Side of You"
- "Tuxedo"



Parmalee

MAIN STAGE

SATURDAY 4:40 PM • parmalee.com

@parmalee

From this tiny town that's home to a gas station, two blinking yellow lights, and a small tin-roofed barn dubbed Studio B, country rockers Parmalee launched their long journey to Nashville. The near-fatal robbery Parmalee experienced after a show would have destroyed most bands. But brothers Matt and Scott Thomas, cousin Barry Knox, and longtime friend Josh McSwain didn't call it quits. Instead, it reinforced their intense motivation and dedication to one another and to their determination to succeed.

Each obstacle that delayed Parmalee's arrival to Nashville was an extra mile that allowed the groundbreaking sounds of artists like Jason Aldean and Eric Church to pave the way for the worlds of country radio and Parmalee's brand of country music to meet at the perfect crossroad. Parmalee's country rock sound has its roots in the bluegrass, traditional country, southern rock and blues covers the guys grew up hearing their families play.

Matt and Scott Thomas grew up near Greenville, NC, watching their father, Jerry, front a popular local southern rock blues band. The boys watched and learned, picking up their own instruments and jamming along with their dad's band. From this, they learned how to integrate their own style into the songs they were playing. Barry Knox, who played drums for the church choir, loved what his cousins were doing and soon joined them.

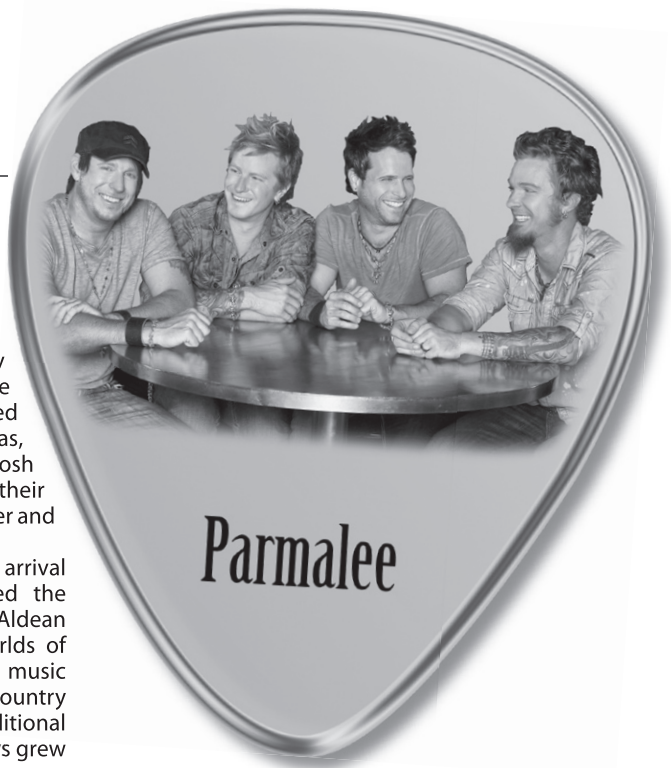
All that practice paid off one night when Matt and Scott, then teenagers, snuck into a club to watch their father perform.

"The guitar player got too drunk before the gig and didn't show," Matt explains. "I knew all the songs so my dad called me on stage. I was in the band from that point on." Scott replaced the drummer, and Barry learned bass in order to secure his spot in the band. The line-up became the newly-minted The Thomas Brothers Band. The Thomas Brothers Band cut their teeth on the local club circuit and would often share the same marquee with a cover band that starred their friend, Josh McSwain, on guitar and keys. Josh's upbringing paralleled Matt, Scott and Barry's. Josh also traveled and played with his father, who was in a bluegrass band called "Get Honked." A fan of Josh's musical prowess, Matt invited Josh to play with Barry, Scott and himself. The foursome clicked immediately on stage. Their first gig was held at local watering hole, Corrigan's, near East Carolina University where the guys went to school. From this moment in 2001 Parmalee was born.

The band set up camp every Tuesday and Thursday evening in the Parmalee, NC barn they named Studio B after its original builder Mark Bryant. They added an extra "e" to the band's name to make it easier for those outside the area to pronounce it.

The band developed a devout regional following based on the intensity of their live shows. But, the guys knew, to turn their dreams into reality, they would have to leave North Carolina. Their journey took them all over the country, including New York, Los Angeles, and Atlanta as they tried to find their musical direction. All of the producers, managers, and label representatives said the same thing: "you guys need to be in Nashville."

After a Sept. 21, 2010 show, Josh and Barry were



packing gear in the venue while Matt and Scott were outside loading their RV when two armed men knocked on the door. The men put a gun to Matt's head and demanded money. Shots were fired. Scott, who possessed a concealed weapons license, fired back. One of the gunmen died and Scott was shot three times. One bullet hit Scott's femoral artery causing him to nearly bleed to death. "He bled out on the air flight to Charlotte, and his heart stopped twice," Matt recalls. "When we got to the hospital, the doctor gave him a five percent chance to live."

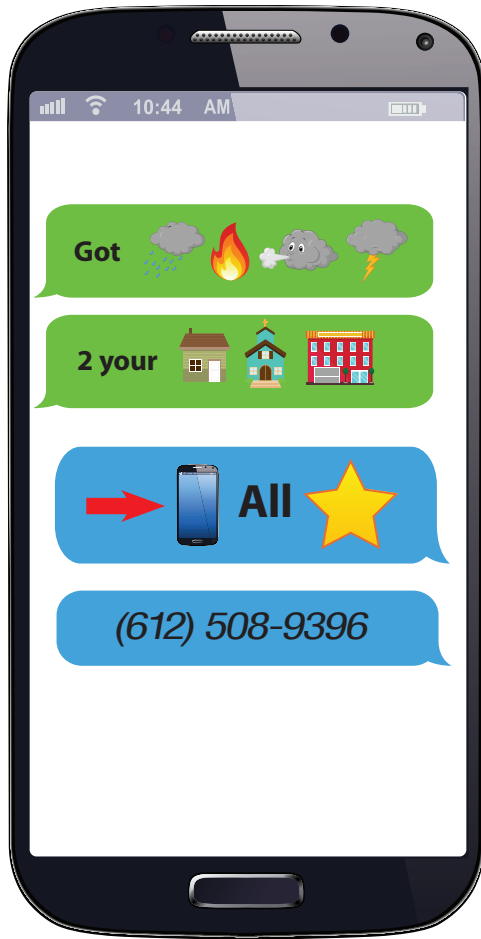
Scott was hospitalized in Charlotte, NC for 35 days – 10 of which he spent in a coma. Parmalee's fans turned out in droves to show their support. Through Facebook campaigns and benefits they raised enough money to help cover Scott's medical bills. The Nashville community also rallied behind Parmalee, donating autographed items and VIP packages to help cover Scott's medical expenses. "We knew we had a lot of friends and fans," Josh said. "But we found out exactly how many we had."

By February 2011, Scott was well enough to get behind a drum kit for the first time and the band finally performed a promised label showcase. Through sheer willpower, the band nailed the set and landed a deal with Stoney Creek Records.

Looking back on their experiences, the members of Parmalee have no regrets about the path they chose. "All the obstacles and craziness we've been through allowed us to help find our home in Nashville," Matt said. "It took us going through all that to mold us," Barry continues. "In Hollywood and New York we were always pushed in opposite directions. But Nashville helped us capture our sound – a sound that's authentic to who we are as both artists and as people."

Some hits from Parmalee

- "Already Callin' You Mine"
- "Close Your Eyes"
- "Carolina"
- "Roots"



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Big & Rich with Cowboy Troy

MAIN STAGE

SATURDAY 6:45 PM • bigandrich.com

🐦 @bigandrich

As Big & Rich, John Rich and Big Kenny Alphin have exerted a definite “gravitational pull” to the direction modern country music has taken.

“When Kenny and I were first considering doing music together some 15 years ago, I can recall like it was yesterday him saying, ‘Man, we are like two individual planets – wouldn’t it be awesome to collide and smash the universe together,’ Rich said. “We definitely felt that creative gravitational pull from the beginning and I think it continues to translate into the music.”

They are America’s Technicolor cowboys, brothers-in-arms in service to the creed that great music has no boundaries. Individually, John and Big Kenny are first-rate musicians, songwriters, producers, entertainers – and now the creative force behind their own label imprint, Big & Rich Records. Together, they are one of the most truly original musical forces ever unleashed on a welcoming world.

The new label is fueling even more passion to produce and present their music.

“We now have the freedom to write songs, call our own shots and put every ounce of our guts, soul and DNA into music that we have complete creative control over – from creation to release schedule,” Kenny said.

Big & Rich have, of course, made a career of being relatable and musically relevant since exploding into the public consciousness in 2003 as the rarest of breeds – true country music game changers. With 2004’s triple-platinum *Horse of a Different Color*, they were able to tap into the best strands of a wide spectrum of popular music, filter them through their pens and voices, and produce a sound that is instantly recognizable, if not classifiable.

“You still can’t really define what that sound is,” said John. “Even we can’t.”

It begins, of course, with that one-of-a-kind vocal blend, as unique and compelling as any in the history of the popular airwaves.

“I listen to a lot of music and I haven’t heard any two voices go together like this,” said Kenny. “John and I can match each other anywhere. He can sing anything and I can make an entirely different melody around it, and vice versa.”

If radio didn’t fully know what to make of them at first, fans of every musical stripe did. They packed arenas with a flying circus of sight, sound and spectacle, a touring renaissance fair of the mind, complete with raised glasses and danceable beats.

“It seems like when you put John and Kenny together and we become Big & Rich, it’s like Clark Kent walking into the phone booth and coming out a Superman,” said John. “We can’t explain it. It’s like a chemical reaction between Kenny and me on stage, something you can feel there. It’s funny to think about, but it’s really true, we walk out on stage and start laying into this thing, the energy goes back and forth between us and the crowd and it’s palpable.”

They are, in addition to everything musical, noted philanthropists and good-will ambassadors. Both remain committed and enthusiastic lovers of life and



givers of time, talent and fortune to great causes. Kenny has become a world traveler, fighting poverty and supporting education through agencies, including the United Nations Foundation and the Red Cross from North America to Africa. John takes part in any number of charitable outreaches, and his win on *The Celebrity Apprentice* brought well over \$1 million to St. Jude Children’s Research Hospital. Those things go to the core of two men whose music and worldviews intersect seamlessly.

“We continue to try to inspire,” said Kenny. “We just try to be ourselves in a world that sometimes insinuates you shouldn’t go outside the boundaries. And now the fact that we’ve got the family thing going on has made a tremendous difference for both of us, but we’re still the same guys. I think life in general moves you forward in a positive way if you let it. Our relationship has grown more positively here than you could ever imagine. I think we just continue to grow, to respect each other more and more and respect the kind of ability we have when we’re singing together.”


“We both have a lot of things that we do creatively,” adds John, “but there’s been something magical about this since the beginning. As good as we are at what we do separately; neither of us is as good as Big & Rich are together. The Big & Rich thing is like a new color in the crayon box.”

Turn to page 36 for information on Cowboy Troy.

Some hits from Big & Rich

- “Run Away With You”
- “Look at You”
- “That’s Why I Pray”
- “Lost in This Moment”
- “8th of November”
- “Comin’ to Your City”
- “Big Time”
- “Holy Water”
- “Save a Horse (Ride a Cowboy)”





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Thomas Rhett

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 @ThomasRhett

Thomas Rhett is the next big thing.

The recent success of Thomas Rhett is no surprise to anyone who has been watching his career. When his smash hit, "Die A Happy Man," became a multi-week, number-one song, he was humbled by its success.

"I'm at a loss for words – there really isn't any better way to start off the new year than like this," Thomas Rhett said earlier this year. "Everyone knows how personal and special this song is to me and my wife, so for it to be connecting the way it has with fans is all the more gratifying."

From the outside looking in, the rise of Thomas Rhett as a country music star may seem like a rapid one, but for the Valdosta, GA native himself, the 2013 release of his debut album, *It Goes Like This*, was a long time coming.

"We held off for a very long time, longer than most new artists hold out for a record," Thomas Rhett said of the two-year process. He and his record label, The Valory Music Co., were waiting for the right moment, and they found it in the form of the platinum-selling, smash-hit single, from which the album takes its name.

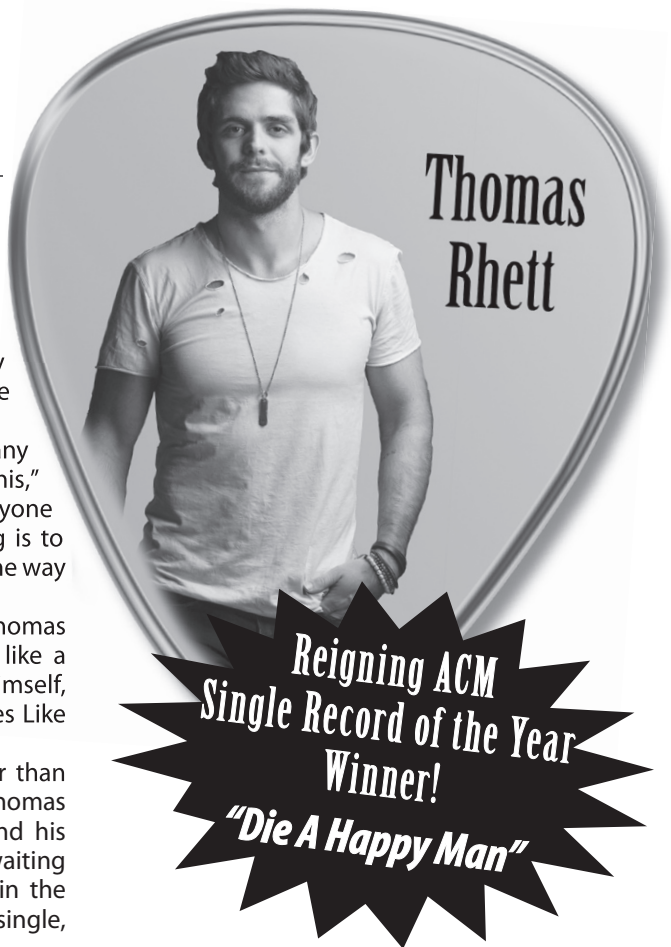
"*It Goes Like This*" spent three weeks on top of the Billboard Country Singles Chart in 2013, tying the record set by Miranda Lambert's "The House That Built Me" three years earlier, for the most weeks spent at number one for an artist's first chart-topping single.

The success of the anthemic country/rock smash was all the more special for Thomas Rhett, as it was written by his Dad – country artist and hit songwriter, Rhett Akins. Father and son got to celebrate together at a unique "double" number-one party, where the younger Akins was also recognized for writing Florida Georgia Line's two-week number-one single, "Round Here."

Citing Luke Bryan as an influence in his unpredictable musicality, Thomas Rhett is striving to reach that point where fans aren't surprised by anything he does; whether it's writing hits for other artists (like Jason Aldean's "1994" or Lee Brice's "Parking Lot Party"), or exploring the multiple sides of his personality in his own music.

"I want my brand to be where people are not shocked when I do certain things. I want people to go, 'I knew Thomas Rhett would do that because he likes to extend and go past the boundaries,'" he said.

Still reveling in events that saw him top the charts, touring with Jason Aldean at sold-out stadiums across the country and making national television appearances on *The Tonight Show* with Jay Leno, *Late Night* with Jimmy Fallon, and *The View*, Thomas Rhett said he has no idea what the future holds for him. "



"I don't have a clue where it's going to go or where it'll end up, but the journey is cool enough for me," he muses. "I'm here for the ride and to entertain people."

Growing up, Rhett said there was no such thing as listening to one radio station. Instead, he would regularly flip from one station to another, cranking up a mix of country, pop, R&B, rap, rock, and oldies.

Decades later, he's tipping his hat to those days with *Tangled Up*, an album that mixes the sound of his influences with equal doses of groove, melody and twang, which translates nicely to the stage.

"At our shows, there aren't any rules," he said. "There's no such thing as standing still and just singing a song. I love jumping into the crowd. I love to dance. The whole show is very uptempo, high energy, and completely unpredictable."

Some hits from Thomas Rhett

- "T-Shirt"
- "Die a Happy Man"
- "Crash and Burn"
- "Make Me Wanna"
- "Get Me Some of That"
- "It Goes Like This"
- "Beer with Jesus"
- "Something to do with My Hands"



Brad Paisley

MAIN STAGE

SATURDAY 10:30 PM • bradpaisley.com

🐦 @BradPaisley

A rock provides a major clue to the heartbeat of Brad Paisley's Wheelhouse.

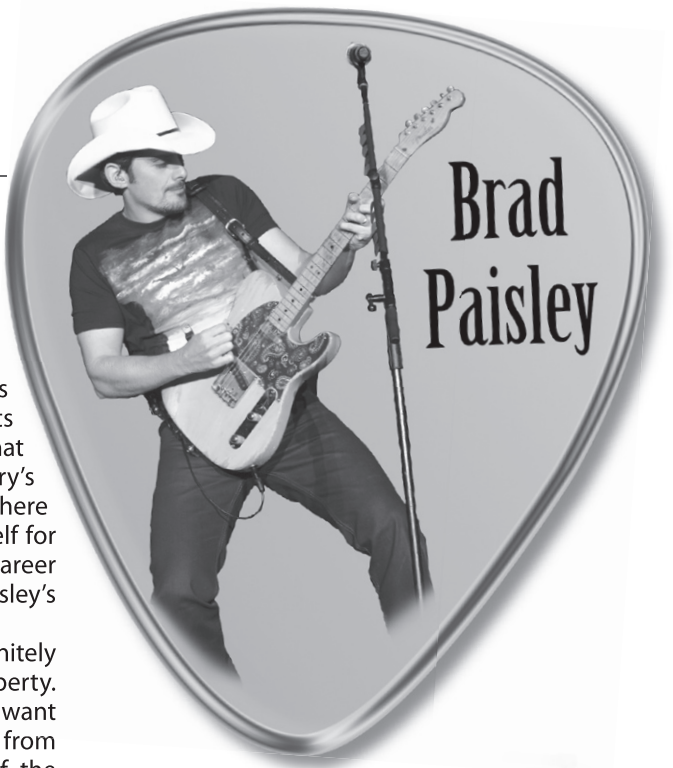
The piece, a silhouette of Paisley's home state West Virginia, is embedded in one of two stonewalls of the drum room in his converted home studio. The state represents the place where he first acquired the skills that coalesced into one of contemporary country's most important careers. The studio itself is where he essentially started over, producing himself for the first time and figuratively rebooting a career that was already the envy of most of Paisley's peers.

The rock reminder of West Virginia definitely belongs on the Middle Tennessee property. Paisley can't escape his past – nor would he want to. The 21 number-one hits, the three awards from ASCAP as the Country Songwriter/Artist of the Year, the 14 Country Music Association awards (including a win as Entertainer of the Year), and the 14 Academy of Country Music awards provide evidence that he has figured out how to connect in a big way with both the public and the country music business.

But as much as his past informs who he is, Paisley was inspired in this album to take a flying leap off a creative cliff. The album is called Wheelhouse, in part, because of the first line in the first song, "Southern Comfort Zone." The studio is now christened the Wheelhouse because Paisley changed his own comfort zone while recording the album.

"Whatever we do here," Paisley said in the studio's piano room, "whatever ends up coming out of here on an album, must end up eventually being in my wheelhouse. Because I've done it."

Much of what ended up among the 17 tracks on Wheelhouse was a result of Paisley's dedication to challenge. He'd never been his own producer, never commissioned a studio, never recorded an album without falling back on some of Nashville's studio musicians, and never tackled some of the difficult themes that are present in the album.



Certainly not in the way that he approached them on Wheelhouse.

"Every song was meant to incorporate something new for me, and to take some sort of twist you don't expect," Paisley explains. "Whether that be the lyric or the loop or the guest, or a different format like rap, or getting a comedian like Eric Idle, it needed to spin your head around somewhere.

"It's like my dog when you say his name followed by a command he doesn't understand. He's like, 'Huh?' And he turns his head a little sideways. That's what I wanted every song to do, in one way or another."

Paisley did that in a big way with the album's first song and lead single, "Southern Comfort Zone," which incorporated a bevy of unpredictable elements – the voice of his late friend, Andy Griffith; pieces of the Southern folk standard "Dixieland;" and the Brentwood Baptist Church Choir. All of that was paired with Paisley's familiar voice and stunning guitar shredding while he challenged listeners to get out of their own comfort zones by seeing as much of the world as possible.

The Wheelhouse, the site for all of Paisley's self-challenge, was borne of his personal past. The

Some hits from Brad Paisley

- "Country Nation"
- "Crushin' It"
- "Beat This Summer"
- "Southern Comfort Zone"
- "Anything Like Me"
- "Water"
- "American Saturday Night"
- "Then"
- "Waitin' on a Woman"
- "I'm Still a Guy"
- "Letter to Me"
- "Online"
- "Ticks"
- "She's Everything"
- "The World"
- "Mud on the Tires"
- "Little Moments"
- "Celebrity"
- "I'm Gonna Miss Her (The Fishin' Song)"
- "We Danced"
- "He Didn't Have to Be"

studio was built in the home he and his wife, actress Kimberly Williams-Paisley, occupied for several years at the beginning of their marriage.

Once they built a new place, it became a guest house, but Paisley began to envision it as more of a creative space. His old bedroom had odd angles in its ceiling and closets that created perfect acoustics for a studio environment. He turned the living room into an expansive location for the piano, and used a tiled downstairs bathroom as an echo chamber. He built the drum room – with its rock walls and dynamic sound – in just a couple weeks before recording commenced in spring 2012.

Paisley employed his road band as his studio ensemble, a rare move in mainstream country, and they typically worked after dark on the project, sometimes finishing a session at 4:30 or 5 a.m., just in time to catch the tour bus for a ride to a concert date.

It's the final piece of his transition as Paisley moves into the next phase of his career. He cannot – and will not – let go of his past. But he's also excited about the uncertainty of the future. The West Virginia stone is a reminder of where he's been. The Wheelhouse and its namesake album are the starting point for the rest of Brad Paisley's creative journey.



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WINSTOCK THROUGH THE YEARS

2015

Alabama
 Jake Owen
 The Band Perry
 Gary Allan
 Eli Young Band
 Jana Kramer
 Sam Hunt
 Dan + Shay
 Chris Hawkey
 Lost Highway
 The Railers
 Mitch Gordon and
 the Unleaded Band
 RaeLynn
 Michael Ray

2014

Toby Keith
 Rascal Flatts
 Justin Moore
 Billy Currington
 Jerrod Niemann
 Ashley Monroe
 Mel Tillis
 Danielle Bradbery
 Chase Rice
 Krystal Keith
 Katie Armiger
 Maiden Dixie
 Tim Sigler Band
 Shane Martin Band
 Roadhouse 6

2013

Luke Bryan
 Dierks Bentley
 Miranda Lambert
 Kip Moore
 38 Special
 Sawyer Brown
 Neal McCoy
 The Farm
 Charlie Worsham
 Joel Crouse
 Drake White
 Maiden Dixie
 Mitch Gordon & the
 Unleaded Band
 DiamondBack
 Greg Michaels Band

2012

Blake Shelton
 Martina McBride
 Willie Nelson
 Gary Allan
 Uncle Kracker
 Nitty Gritty Dirt
 Band
 Frankie Ballard

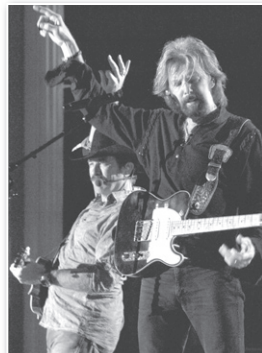
Sunny Sweeney
 Dustin Lynch
 Brett Eldredge
 Wade Bowen
 Rocket Club
 Tim Sigler
 The Unleaded Band
 Wylee

2011

Jason Aldean
 Darius Rucker
 Montgomery Gentry
 Rodney Atkins
 The Oak Ridge Boys
 Josh Thompson
 James Otto
 Gloriana
 Troy Olsen
 Joanna Smith
 Carter's Chord
 DiamondBack
 RIZE
 Blurred Vision
 Hitchville

2010

Alan Jackson
 Dierks Bentley
 Sara Evans
 Josh Turner
 Ronnie Milsap
 Phil Vassar
 Jake Owen
 BlackHawk
 Trailer Choir
 David Nail
 Randy Montana
 Her and Kings
 County
 Rocket Club
 The Wayne Renn
 Band
 White Creek
 Blurred Vision



Brooks and Dunn brought their "Cowboy Town" tour to Winsted in 2009.

2009

Brooks & Dunn
 Big & Rich w/
 Cowboy Troy
 LeAnn Rimes
 Billy Currington
 Heidi Newfield
 Neal McCoy
 Bucky Covington
 The Lost Trailers
 Randy Houser
 Trailer Choir
 Casey Carlson
 Always . . . Patsy
 Cline
 The Daisy Dillman
 Band
 The Dixie Hicks
 The Smok'n Guns
 Roy Dawson and the
 Bootleggers

2008

Reba McEntire
 Montgomery Gentry
 Craig Morgan
 Kellie Pickler
 Sawyer Brown
 Keith Anderson
 Emerson Drive
 Bomshel
 Lady Antebellum
 Emily West
 The Lost Trailers
 DiamondBack
 Ten Cent Biscuit
 featuring Lisa Bailey
 The Dixie Hicks
 RIZE

2007

Trace Adkins
 Gretchen Wilson
 The Bellamy
 Brothers
 Diamond Rio
 Rodney Atkins
 Miranda Lambert
 Eric Church
 Sarah Buxton
 Flynnville Train
 Halfway to Hazard
 White Creek
 Marshall Star Band
 KeyStone featuring
 Brittany Lee
 The Wayne Renn
 Band
 Chopper – The
 World's Nuttiest DJ



Toby Keith didn't let a little rain prevent him from delivering a stellar performance in 2014, saving the night for Winstock fans.

2006

Lynyrd Skynyrd
 Lonestar
 Charlie Daniels
 Roy Clark
 Phil Vassar
 Terri Clark
 Blake Shelton
 Jamie O'Neal
 Little Big Town
 Shannon Brown
 The Lost Trailers
 DiamondBack
 White Creek
 The Law
 The Beer Daddys

2005

Lee Ann Womack
 Neal McCoy
 Glen Campbell
 Charley Pride
 SHeDAISY
 Darryl Worley
 Joe Nichols
 Dierks Bentley
 Craig Morgan
 Sugarland
 Keith Anderson
 Hanna-McEuen
 Rockie
 Chace Roberts
 Connie Kappel-
 Sather and
 The About Time
 Band

2004

Keith Urban
Montgomery Gentry
Tracy Byrd
Trace Adkins
Sawyer Brown
The Oak Ridge Boys
Phil Vassar
Carolyn Dawn
Johnson
Jimmy Wayne
Prairie Rose
White Creek

2003

John Michael
Montgomery
Martina McBride
Loretta Lynn
Ronnie Milsap
Sara Evans
Darryl Worley
Trick Pony
Gary Allan
Rebecca Lynn
Howard
Prairie Rose

2002

Jo Dee Messina
Lonestar
George Jones
Trace Adkins
Chad Brock
BlackHawk
The Kentucky
HeadHunters
Blake Shelton
The Wilkinsons
Junior Brown
The Clark Family
Experience



Having performed at Winstock '01, '04, and '11, The Oak Ridge Boys are Winstock fan favorites.

2001

Neal McCoy
Sammy Kershaw &
Lorrie Morgan
The Oak Ridge Boys
Travis Tritt
Aaron Tippin
Terri Clark
Chely Wright
Rascal Flatts
Eric Heatherly
Tim Rushlow
Keystone

2000

Sawyer Brown
Diamond Rio
Bryan White
Merle Haggard

The Wilkinsons
Mark Wills
Montgomery Gentry
Sherrie Austin
Sons of the Desert
Chace Roberts Band
Janie Miller

1999

John Michael
Montgomery
Deana Carter
Tracy Byrd
BlackHawk
Jo Dee Messina
Ty Herndon
The Kinleys
John Conlee
Chace Roberts Band
Wayne Renn Band
High Noon

1998

Pam Tillis
Martina McBride
Neal McCoy
The Mavericks
Joe Diffie
Nitty Gritty Dirt
Band
Ricochet
Michael Peterson
Chely Wright
The Killer Hayseeds
Mary Sue England

1997

Tracy Lawrence
Toby Keith
Jo Dee Messina
Little Texas
BlackHawk

Paul Brandt
James Bonamy
Stephanie Bentley
High Horse
Wayne Renn Band
Doolin Dalton Band

1996

Tanya Tucker
Collin Raye
Doug Supernaw
Ricochet
Charlie Daniels Band
Shenandoah
Daryle Singletary
High Horse

1995

Sammy Kershaw
Ricky Skaggs
Michelle Wright
Lee Roy Parnell
Nitty Gritty Dirt
Band
Boy Howdy
Molly & the
Heymakers
Trailer Trash
Naked Cowboys
Pop Wagner

1994

Waylon Jennings
Crystal Gayle
Paulette Carlson
Fox River
Midnight Rider
Doc Holliday



Miranda Lambert, the Academy of Country Music's record holder for most consecutive female vocalist wins, performed at Winstock in 2013 and 2007.



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An interview with Clare Dunn

By Ryan Gueningsman

Clare Dunn describes herself as a true-blue farm girl from way southeast Colorado. It's this unique upbringing that has paved the way for the imagery and style Dunn is able to convey with her music.

"Music was all I ever dreamed of since I was a little girl," Dunn said, calling from her family's ranch/farm in Colorado. "My first memory as a child is singing a Clint Black song – actually I made up my own words to 'Nobody's Home.' Music was all I ever wanted to do."

Dunn moved to Nashville a few years ago, honing her guitar skills, and beginning to produce her own music. Her guitar prowess, despite being a newly-acquired skill, is something that is quickly setting her apart from the rest.

"I didn't start playing guitar until I moved to Nashville, really," Dunn said, "I heard things a certain way, and I couldn't communicate it with other guitar players, and so I was just lacking in vocabulary. I didn't know how to express what I heard, so I thought if I couldn't express it, maybe I better take a stab at it (playing) and see if I could do it."

She recalled a milestone for her was learning an old blues song by Eric Clapton called "Highway."

"When I finally learned that note for note, lick for lick, I was really proud of myself," she said. "Playing guitar for me is more about creating a sound, and it's a tool of expression for me."

Dunn obtained a record deal with Universal/MCA Records, which let her continue producing her own music.

"I got to make the record of my dreams," she said. "Now, I'm just finally getting it out to the people. When people hear my music, it's a true representation of my sound and what I've been dreaming of getting to make."

A self-titled five-song EP was released September 2015 and features her current single, "Tuxedo."

"It's a song I wrote about my dream guy, and what I hope I will find someday," Dunn said. "For me, being a farm girl, I watched and admired and dated farm boys and cowboys out here, so that is where a lot of the imagery I drew on came from."

She said, deeper, the song is about any hard-working guy, no matter what he does, or where he is from.

"It's about a guy who works hard for the women he loves and has that strength of character," she said. "That woman who admires her man. I hope to convey that message to fans out there and I hope they continue to latch onto this song the way they have."



Clare Dunn will take the Winstock stage Saturday, June 11 at 2:35 p.m.

"I love nothing more than when guys and girls come up to me – girls especially – and say, 'this is my tuxedo man.' Then guys will come up and say they're the tuxedo man. I love it when people take ownership of that song – that's my ultimate goal."

In addition to "Tuxedo," Dunn wrote and co-produced the remaining songs on the EP.

"It was a huge leap of faith that my record label let me be a brand new artist and have creative control over my album," she said. "It's been amazing."

Dunn has written with some of the highest-regarded songwriters in Nashville, including Hillary Lindsey, Liz Rose, Angelo, Terry McBride, Will Hoge, and others.

Currently, she said she's found herself listening to Keith Urban, Bob Seger, Waylon Jennings, and "a lot of Buck Owens again."

"A lot of my childhood was spent driving a tractor all day long, and the radio is your best

friend – literally,” she said. “I listened to a lot of country, and a lot of classic rock, just depending on what radio station I could tune in that day.”

She drew standing ovations on numerous dates she opened for Seger, the American rock icon, on his Ride Out Tour. In addition to Seger, she’s shared the stage with Luke Bryan (Dunn is featured as a background vocalist on Bryan’s hit “Country Girl (Shake It For Me)”), Urban, Miranda Lambert, Dierks Bentley, and Winstock ‘16 headliner Brad Paisley.

“I just feel very fortunate that so many artists have embraced me as I’m coming up,” Dunn said. “I was able to go out and do some dates with Brad last year.”

She said she was able to sit at a bar on the stage while Paisley was performing and watch him play. Despite Paisley being known in the industry as a top practical joker, Dunn said she escaped the experience unscathed.

“I don’t know that I’m going to be a good pranker,” she said with a laugh. “I need to work on my prank game.”

In addition to Paisley and Dunn, the Saturday lineup at Winstock features Parmalee, Big & Rich with Cowboy Troy, and Thomas Rhett.

“I’m a huge Thomas Rhett fan,” Dunn said. “He always puts on a great show.”

Dunn is looking forward to hitting the road this summer, performing a full tour schedule, and introducing fans to her music.

“I do two things best in life - create and play – and we’re going to do a lot of playing,” she said.

She enjoys being able to connect with her fans not only at her shows, but via social media, as well.

“It’s awesome for me to get to have that interaction,” Dunn said. “My social media is very important for me, because it allows me to have that moment to connect with people, much more so than you have time to at a show.

“It’s an opportunity just to get to know folks, and they’re the ones who make it possible for me to live my dream every day, and I want to get to know them the best I possibly can.”

Winstock fans will be quick to embrace Dunn as she is set to make her debut on the Winstock stage.

“I love to get after it,” Dunn said of her live performances. “They’re so high energy. I like to create a space where people can come and forget about everything going on in their lives and just have a moment to escape and enjoy the music.”

Clare Dunn called from Colorado April 28 for a pre-Winstock interview. She will perform at Winstock ‘16 Saturday, June 11 at 2:35 p.m. For more information, visit claredunn.com, follow her on Twitter, and like her page on Facebook.

Ryan Gueningsman is at ryan.gueningsman@gmail.com.



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Winstock Rumble on the Road

Over the past years of Winstock, festival organizers have teamed up with local and regional bars and radio stations to present the Winstock "Rumble on the Road."

In celebration of Winstock's 23rd anniversary, the festival took to the road this spring in preparation for one of the best festivals yet!

Bars offer top-notch music, drink specials, and visits from favorite radio personalities.

Also at these stops, a few Winstock tickets and music from your favorite artists are given away.

Watch the Winstock website this fall for dates to be announced for the Winstock 2017 Rumble on the Road Tour.

The 2016 stops included the original rumble at the Blue Note in Winsted, Mully's on Madison in Mankato, Hollywood Sports Complex, and Triple



R Grill and Bar in Kimball, and featured bands like DiamondBack, Two Hicks and a Chick, Ragtown, and Pullstart Diesel.

For more information on the Winstock Rumble on the Road, visit www.winstockfestival.com/rumble-on-the-road/ and also keep up with the stops through the official Winstock Facebook page.

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WINSTOCK BEANBAG TOURNAMENT

The sixth annual Winstock beanbag tournament will take place Thursday, June 9 at the Winstock festival grounds, beginning at 6:30 p.m. This year there will be four brackets.

A professional bracket, which will cost \$30 per two-person team, will feature a first-place prize of two reserved seating tickets for Winstock 2017, along with other prizes.

A regular bracket and a co-ed bracket will cost \$20 per two-person team, with great prizes provided.

A Have-Fun bracket for those who want to come and throw some beanbags just for fun will cost \$10 per two-person team. Prizes will be awarded.

All decisions of the tournament organizers are final.

Registration

Register onsite Thursday, June 9 beginning at 5 p.m. inside festival grounds. No pre-registration accepted.



The sixth-annual Winstock beanbag tournament is set to take place Thursday, June 9 at 6:30 p.m.

CRAFT BEER AT WINSTOCK

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For more information, visit www.winstockfestival.com, follow the festival on Twitter at @WinstockMN, and "like" it on Facebook.



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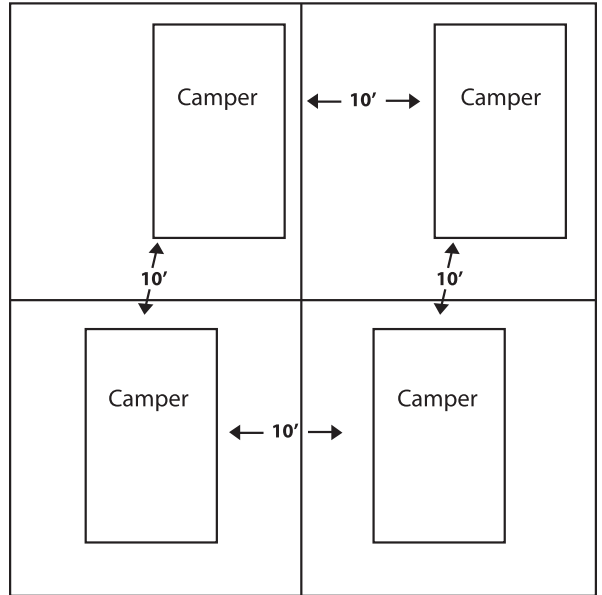


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4630.0400

- Provide a separation distance of at least 10 feet between the sides of adjacent recreational camping vehicles.



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After July 15:

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\$20 Day Pass (begins at Noon every day)

Vehicle Entry Fees

All motorcycles are FREE!

\$40 non-motorcycle parking on grounds
(no re-entry)

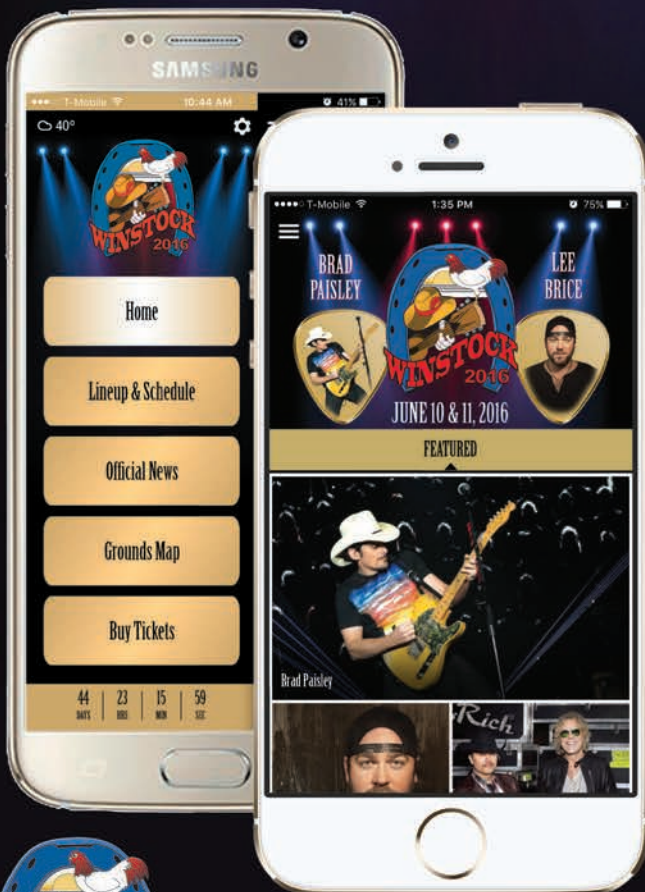
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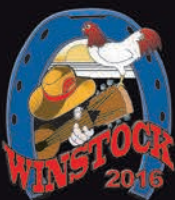
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