

HEALTHY SENIORS OF STEELE COUNTY ALONG WITH  
APRIL DAHL OF DAHL DANCE PRESENT:

# Dancing with Our Steele County Stars

SATURDAY, APRIL 18TH, 2026

OWATONNA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM

A fabulous evening of dancing, entertainment & refreshments to  
support seniors living in communities throughout Steele County

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:



BECKY DAWLEY

DALE & JADE GANDRUD



# *Dancing with Our Steele County Stars*

Saturday, April 18, 2026



## **Social Hour**

Starts at 6:00 pm in the commons area

## **Introduction of EmCees and Judges**

Starts at 7:00 pm

## **Dancers and Order of Performance**

Kelly & Dan Boomgarden . . . . .	Fishing in the Dark, <i>Country Two Step</i>
Aryanna & Aaron Kreutter . . . . .	Club Can't Handle Us, <i>Hustle Hip Hop</i>
Emily & Mark Pearson . . . . .	Dance Macabre, <i>East Coast Swing</i>
Patricia & Mike Kurtz . . . . .	Greased Lightning, <i>Theatrical Swing</i>
Stephanie & Andrew Thigpen . . . . .	Tanguerra, <i>Argentine Tango</i>
Jen & Bryan Culligan . . . . .	My Maria, <i>Country Rumba</i>
Amy & John Green . . . . .	Recipe for Love, <i>Foxtrot</i>
Melissa Olson & Chris Goihl . . . . .	Time After Time, <i>Rumba</i>
Program Highlights . . . . .	Healthy Seniors Program Video

# Intermission - 25 Minutes

Join us in the commons area to vote for your favorite couple, enjoy refreshments, purchase raffle tickets for \$15.

Please vote for your favorite couple by putting your audience choice ticket and money in the vase of any couple you wish to support.

Raffle Tickets can be put in the boxes next to the item(s) you want to be in the drawing for. One winning raffle will be drawn for each item before the awards presentation. Winners can present their winning ticket after the show in the cafeteria to claim their prize. Need not be present to win.

A \$5 drawing for items on the white table. Winning numbers will be announced. Need to be present to win.

## Program Resumes

**DWS Alumni** . . . . . *Shut Up and Dance*  
Stephanie Dietz-Gill & Nicholas Gill, Jennifer Anderson & Tom Breuer, Laura & Brian Knopik, and Naomi Nagel & Leo Avalos

**Pro Routine** . . . . . *West Coast Swing, Diamonds*  
Kunal Garde and Danika Dahl

## Raffle Drawing

Announcement of Winners, White Table Drawing and of winning numbers.

## Presentation of Awards

### Fundraising Award

Awarded to the couple that raises the most money.

### Audience Choice Award

Awarded to the couple that has the most tickets in the vase.

### Final Placements: 1st, 2nd, and 3rd

The overall winners are determined by a total of cumulative points earned from three areas: judges' score, audience choice ranking and fundraising ranking.



## Kelly & Dan Boomgarden

**"Fishing in the Dark," *Country Two Step***

High school sweethearts, Kelly and Dan are celebrating 40 years of marriage this September. They've raised three grown children and are blessed with three grandchildren. They're also grateful for their bonus daughter and her family, including her husband and their two children, bonus grandchildren—who have traveled from Texas to join this special night, along with other family members, including one of their two sons and their daughter and fiancé.

They love to travel and camp, especially when it means being surrounded by family. While Kelly's dream vacation involves relaxing on a sunny beach, Dan prefers casting a line on a quiet fishing trip—proving that opposites truly do attract. Kelly is outgoing, energetic, and full of enthusiasm, while Dan is steady, reserved, and the calm to her spark.

Kelly serves as General Manager of Country Inn & Suites and is active in the community as a member of the Owatonna Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors and a Chamber Ambassador. Dan works as a Safety Manager for Martin Marietta.

Neither claims to be a dancer, and Dan insists he “dances like a tree stump”—making this experience all the more entertaining! Together, they've embraced the challenge and are proud to support such an important cause—raising funds for our seniors.



## Aryanna & Aaron Kreutter

**"Club Can't Handle Us," *Hustle Hip Hop***

Aaron and Aryanna Kreutter, owners of All the Details, LLC in Owatonna, are a husband-and-wife team known for their drive, heart, and deep roots in the community. As proud parents of six children and three French bulldog “babies,” life is always moving fast—whether they're at the shop, on the road riding motorcycles, or cheering on their kids. Together, they've built their business into a trusted name for automotive detailing,

window tinting, ceramic coatings, and paint protection, all while staying grounded in family and faith. Now, they're stepping onto the dance floor for Dancing with Our Steele County Stars, bringing the same energy, passion, and teamwork they live every day. They're honored to support Healthy Seniors of Steele County and be part of an event that gives back in such a meaningful way.

# Emily & Mark Pearson

"Dance Macabre," *East Coast Swing*

Mark Pearson: Financial Advisor at Enter Wealth  
Emily Pearson: Founder and Director of The Craft Apothecary.



We've been married for 14 years and have loved making Owatonna our home. A big part of that has been getting more involved in the local business and nonprofit community. We have two kids—Brooke, a junior at Andover High School, and Beckett, a sixth grader at Owatonna Middle School. As a family, we enjoy camping, kayaking, exploring the North Shore, and just as much, relaxing at home with video games, TV, and movies.

Mark has worked in retail banking in the area since 2009, when Emily convinced him to make the move from The Cities. Emily moved to Owatonna in 2004 to begin her career at Pearson as a Graphic Designer, where she spent over 20 years before recently stepping away to focus full-time on opening The Craft Apothecary at the Rose Street Center in partnership with the Owatonna Area Business Development Center.

Over the past year and a half, we've both stepped into new business adventures—Mark joining Paul Enter at Enter Wealth and Emily bringing The Craft Apothecary to life. Along the way, we've been pushing ourselves outside of our comfort zones, so when the opportunity to participate in Dancing With Our Steele County Stars came up, we figured we'd push ourselves a little further. Through this experience, we've learned so much about Healthy Seniors of Steele County and are honored to support an organization that makes such an important impact in our community.



## Patricia & Mike Kurtz

**"Greased Lightning," *Theatrical Swing***

Mike and Patricia Kurtz are thrilled to take the stage as part of this year's Dancing with Our Steele County Stars, combining their love for community with a willingness to step outside their comfort zone for a great cause. Mike works at Costco, where he brings dedication and a strong work ethic to his role each day. Patricia works at Federated and is deeply involved in the local community

as the head of Owatonna Cheer. With a true passion for coaching, she loves mentoring young athletes and helping them grow both on and off the mat.

Together, Mike and Patricia are proud parents to their two children, Scarlett and Preston Kurtz, who keep them busy and inspired. Their journey to Minnesota in 2020 was brought on by Mike's job and led them to the Owatonna area. Since then, they have embraced the community and are grateful to call it home. They are incredibly excited to be part of this event, not only for the fun and challenge of dancing, but also for the opportunity to give back and support such a meaningful cause. They look forward to sharing this experience with their family, friends, and the entire Steele County community.



## Stephanie & Andrew Thigpen

**"Tanguerra," *Argentine Tango***

Stephanie & Andrew Thigpen are married with a shared love of dance, children, and Catholicism. Stephanie was a flight attendant and Andrew an IT consultant when they met in 2012 at a swing dance ballroom in Baltimore, MD. Stephanie is now a full-time mother with a passion for musical theater, most recently playing Maria in the Sound of Music at the Paradise Community Theater.

Andrew still has the same job but is now fueled by family and child-like play (think Lego and laser tag). They are excited to learn a brand new style of dance for this endeavor!



## Jen & Bryan Culligan

**"My Maria," *Country Rumba***

Jen and Bryan Culligan are a busy, fun-loving couple who balance work, family, and a whole lot of activity. Proud parents to their two beautiful daughters, Charley and Jayme, they spend most of their time on the go, keeping up with their girls' many activities after the workday wraps up. Bryan is an Owner and General Manager of Taco John's in Owatonna, while Jen works at Federated

Insurance and also dedicates her time to volunteering on the OYHA Board. When they do find a little downtime, you can find them on the golf course, at the hockey arena, cheering on their favorite sports teams, or simply enjoying quality time together as a family.



## Amy & John Green

**"Recipe for Love," *Foxtrot***

John and Amy Green are proud members of the Owatonna community, where they have built both their careers and their family over the past two decades. John has been a trusted presence in the local construction industry for more than 20 years, known for his dedication and craftsmanship.

Amy has spent the same amount of time caring for others as a massage therapist at Balanced Healthcare, helping clients feel their very best. Together, they have raised three wonderful daughters and are excited to take the dance floor in support of a cause that celebrates health, vitality, and community spirit.



## Melissa Olson & Chris Goihl

**"Time After Time," *Rumba***

Chris and Melissa fell in love just under two years ago, and from the very beginning, their connection felt effortless. Life has been a whirlwind ever since.

Chris works in loan review at Associated Bank and is a proud father of two, soon welcoming a daughter-in-law into the family. Melissa is a mortgage lender at Minnwest Bank and the

creative heart behind Chiffon Cottage Creative Company, her own lifestyle design business. Her world is beautifully full: four daughters and their partners, four granddaughters, and a lively collection of grand-puppies, cats, and even a horse.

One year ago, on a breathtaking trip to Belize, Chris asked Melissa to be his forever. Surrounded by turquoise water, warm breezes, and the magic of adventure, she said yes — and their next chapter began.

## *Honoring Our Ninth "Star Couple"*



## Jessica & Thaddeus Tuttle

The Monday before lessons were set to begin, Thaddeus (Thad) passed away unexpectedly. Our hearts and prayers continue to go out to Jessica and her family as they navigate this profound loss.

Thaddeus loved serving his community and was truly looking forward to participating in this year's fundraising event. He had a remarkable passion for helping people, connecting with others, and bringing joy through his energy and enthusiasm.

His spirit for socializing, entertaining, and uplifting

those around him made a lasting impact on everyone who knew him.

Although he cannot be here with us physically, Thad is remembered spiritually—in the laughter he inspired, the kindness he shared, and the community he cared for so deeply. Tonight, we honor both Jessica and Thaddeus, and we carry his light with us as part of this year's celebration.

# *The Choreographer and Coach*



## **April Dahl**

April Dahl founded Dahl Dance in 2005. She has been dancing for over 35 years and is skilled in multiple dance disciplines including ballet, jazz, contemporary, ballroom, swing, Latin and Argentine Tango. She holds a degree in Kinesiology from the University of MN and is a postural alignment specialist, personal trainer and Dance for Parkinson's provider. Her passion is helping people enjoy movement through music and working with clients recovering from injuries

that have affected their balance and coordination.

She is a former member of the Beyond Ballroom Dance Company in Minneapolis, has participated as a guest artist with numerous dance companies and universities and was a finalist at the United States Argentine Tango Championships. When not in the studio, April enjoys dancing in her kitchen, reading physiology and sports psychology textbooks, travel and spending time with her cool grown up kids.

# *The EmCees*



## **Karen and David Legault**

Karen is the Director of Marketing for Ellingson Companies. David is the Managing Partner at Subarctic Media and KOWZ/KRUE and KFAN Owatonna. They are proud parents of 5-year-old twins, London and Abrielle.

Karen & David first came to the stage in 2012 as contestants in Dancing with Our Steele County Stars. They have shared their time and talent as they are in their Tenth year as EmCees.

Thank you Karen and David!

# *The Judges*



## **Cameron Hellkamp**

Cameron started dancing when he was at the age of 17 in studio dance. Not really wanting to follow in traditional sports in his senior year in high school, he started learning the styles of ballet, modern/contemporary, and Hip-Hop. He fell in love with everything that came with the art. The community, the strive to improve, the set pieces, and the way you move yourself. Learning had become his strength and quickly enjoyed the style of Hip-Hop so much he continued to learn outside of the studio. Self studying the style and then taking those findings and bringing them back to the studio that brought him to this passion. TheDanceLab has been his home for the past 7 years teaching kids and having them grow the style of Hip-Hop in the city of Rochester, MN. Recently he has performed with the astounding Rainy Day Cabinet in their production “A Way Out Is Through” showcasing his expertise in Hip-Hop and blending it with the amazing choreography of Joanie Mix along with other styles of dance that challenged him. He has also taken on a new way to improve and challenge himself through social dancing and DanceSport. Under Dahl Dance he has grown and learned the style of West Coast Swing and is specializing in it. He also attends lessons in Waltz, ChaCha, Tango, East Coast Swing, Salsa, and Line Dancing. These opportunities to experience and fall in love with a whole new community is something he loves doing and he will only continue to learn and and enjoy the art of dance.



## **Danika Dahl**

Danika is a professional dancer and choreographer based in Minnesota, known for her versatility across a wide range of partner dance styles including ballroom and swing dances. With more than 2 decades of dance experience, Danika has coached and competed all over the world, winning first place championships internationally, including the 2022 US Open Rising Star Championship. When not traveling and competing all over the world, Danika shares her passion for dance locally, teaching people how to dance, overcome their fears, and build connections. She's participated in a number of local dance-based charity events including Dancing for the Arts, and has coached individuals with zero dance experience to the glamorous stage within weeks!



## Allison Kocak

Allison's dance adventure began at Midwest Youth Dance Theater (Roseville, MN) where she enjoyed grooving in productions such as Rodeo, Fosse, Lion King, Nutcracker, and Aida. She took this love of movement to the University of Wisconsin River Falls, obtaining a minor in dance education + a minor in math education + a major in elementary education. On campus this hip shaking lady joined every dance opportunity available including the UWRF Dance

Theater Company, UWRF Swing Dancing Club, UWRF Breakdancing Club, and UWRF Capoeira Club. Allison was utterly fortunate to attend the American College Dance Festival three years consecutively.

Prior to these ever sprouting gray hairs, Allison performed and worked with In-Kline Dance Company, The Phipps Theatre, Roseville School of Dance, The Fair School, The Cowels Center for Dance, and the MN Fringe Festival. This crazy lady and her honey bunches of oats hightailed it to Rochester where Allison taught at Allegro School of Dance for six years and founded Companion Acres LLC. Today she earns her smile lines by chasing her three kiddos and many many many dogs, renovating a 1890's farmhouse, traveling, choreographing for UWRF DT, dancing with Rainy Day Cabaret Dance Company, managing Companion Acres, developing Companion Homestead Nonprofit, teaching at Dance Lab, and currently launching PetalSmoke ConstructionCo.

## *Professional Dancer*



## Kunal Garde

I'm Kunal - originally from India, moved to the USA for higher education in 2015 and have called Minnesota home ever since. I started dancing west coast swing in 2018 with no prior dance background and I like to think I truly embody the "if I can do it, so can you" sentiment.

I enjoy the shared creativity of West Coast Swing and the communication without using words. I started dancing to push me outside my comfort zone, but it has now become my happy place!

# Thanks to our Sponsors

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Steele County Free Fair  
Steve & Tina Shafer  
Tim & Jody Hugley

# Special Thanks

**April Dahl of Dahl Dance**  
Choreographer & Coach

**Karen and Dave Legault**  
EmCee Talent

**Limberg Productions**  
Video Productions

**Mona Moore**  
Alterations

**Gary Dahl**  
Music Editing

**Vibes**  
Lesson Accommodations

**Legault Images**  
Backdrop pictures

**Owatonna High School**  
Show location

**Hy-Vee**  
Catering the event

**Karen Hale**  
Social Media and Platform Development

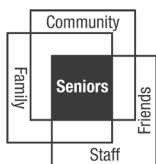
**Legacy Signs**  
Dancing with Our Steele County Stars Photo backdrop

Thank you to all of the dancers, volunteers and sponsors  
to help make this event possible.

## *Alumni Number Finale*



*Stephanie Dietz-Gill & Nicholas Gill, Jennifer Anderson & Tom Breuer, Laura & Brian Knopik, and Naomi Nagel & Leo Avalos*



# Healthy Seniors of Steele County

*Providing needed support & services to  
keep seniors safely living well at home.*

**Mission:** Healthy Seniors of Steele County services help seniors in need who are 65 and older live healthy, safe, and independent in their own homes, to prolong the length of spending down into Medical Assistance, and to divert nursing home placements.

Volunteers are matched with community members who may be isolated, frail, or simply unable to accomplish a particular task without assistance. Healthy Seniors of Steele County volunteers provide thousands of good neighbor acts of kindness each year.

**Board of Directors:** Steve Shafer, Jackie Evans, Becky Dawley, Heather Nelson, Marcy Sundine, Carol Wurdeman and Tim Hugley

**Staff:** Edna Ringhofer, Denise Stewart, Kathy Pegg, Daniel Glaser and Mary Kraft.

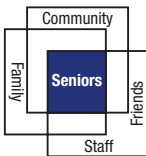
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(507) 774-7648 | [healthyseniorsmn.org](http://healthyseniorsmn.org)



# *Dancing with Our Steele County Stars*

**Thank you for coming to  
& supporting Healthy Seniors  
of Steele County**



**Healthy Seniors  
of Steele County**

*Providing needed support & services to  
keep seniors safely living well at home.*