

# Coming 'Home'

Country Music  
Star Ty Herndon  
Set For Dakota  
Theatre Show  
On June 29



PHOTO: ERIC SCHWABEL

**BY DEREK BARTOS**  
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**R**oll out the red carpet.

A national music star is coming to Dakota Theatre.

The Lewis & Clark Theatre Company (LCTC) is presenting Grammy-nominated country recording artist Ty Herndon, who will be performing at the downtown Yankton theater for a one-night-only concert beginning at 7:30 p.m. on June 29.

LCTC Executive Director Chuck Lambertz is excited about the opportunity the concert will offer local residents. "I think there are a lot of country western fans in the area, and it's a chance for them to see a quality national show at a very reasonable price right in their backyard," Lambertz said.

With his 4 million albums sold and numerous hit songs, Herndon is a household name to country music fans. He has 17 hits that have landed on the Billboard Hot Country Songs charts, including three No. 1 hits ("What Mattered Most," "Living In A Moment," "It Must Be Love") and four additional Top 10 hits ("I Want My Goodbye Back," "Loved Too Much," "A Man Holding On," "Hands of a Working Man").

His albums "What Mattered Most" and "Living In A Moment" have been certified Gold by the Recording Industry Association of America.

Herndon co-wrote the song "When We Fly," which won the 2010 Dove Award for Bluegrass Recorded Song of the Year. He recorded the song as a duet with Lizzy Long.

He was also nominated for a 2011 Grammy Award for Best Southern, Country or Bluegrass Gospel album.

According to his website, Herndon recently signed a new recording deal with FUNL Music. The Nashville label announced Herndon as its flagship artist and released to radio "Journey On," the title single from his latest album.

"We're excited about having him come in," Lambertz said. "He's very well known within his genre."

He said Herndon is looking forward to the show as well.

"He's excited about coming to Yankton and playing a smaller, more intimate venue," he said. "He's from a small town, and he even told his booking agent, 'I already feel like I'm home.'"

Lambertz said the LCTC normally doesn't host this type of big-name talent because it is cost prohibitive.

"We got a very good deal with Ty Herndon because his booking agent was looking for a tweener, which is a filler date," he said. "They had two open days, and it costs a lot of money to be on the road not doing anything. So they're

trying to recover some of the costs for those down days."

While Yankton might normally lose out on such a gig to a bigger venue, the look of the Dakota Theatre sealed the deal.

"The booking agent saw our picture on our website, and he fell in love with the theater," Lambertz said. "That's why he called us instead of Sioux Falls or Sioux City."

Lambertz added that a good crowd could pave the way for more national talent in the future.

"His booking agent said that if the concert is successful, he has several other clients who would be interested in stopping by during future tours," he said. "So it could open up doors for the community to have quality national entertainment coming in."

The concert, which will utilize the theater's new sound system, will open with a half-hour performance by The Lugnuts.

"When they heard we were doing Ty Herndon, they called to see if they could be the opening act, which was kind of cool," Lambertz said.

Tickets can be purchased at the Dakota Theatre box office weekdays from noon-5 p.m. or by calling 605-665-4711.

"There's a limited number of seats, so get your seat early and get a good one," Lambertz said. "We're going to have fun, and we plan on selling out the show."

## For These Newlyweds, Love Is Just Like A Ferris Wheel

**BY NATHAN JOHNSON**  
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Doug and Judy (Wuebker) Hanson decided to give their relationship the third go-around recently.

After all, the first two times went so well.

The couple got married Memorial Day weekend at St. Benedict Catholic Church in Yankton. Immediately after the ceremony, they and their wedding party took a horse-drawn carriage to the D.C. Lynch Carnival in the parking lot of the Yankton Mall.

That's where the couple got on a familiar Ferris wheel — one that has consistently propelled their relationship forward.

On Memorial Day weekend in 2009, the couple had their first date. After going out for pizza, Doug decided to take Judy to the carnival. He is scared of heights, but agreed to take Judy on the Ferris wheel anyway.

"I'm such a brave man," Doug jokes. "(Our relationship) kind of went from there."

His bravery paid off, as the next Memorial Day weekend Doug and Judy were still dating.



NATHAN JOHNSON/P&D

Doug and Judy Hanson got married May 28 in Yankton. As part of the festivities, they took a ride on the Ferris wheel, a ride they went on during their first date and when Doug proposed to Judy.

He decided to return to the Ferris wheel, but with a big surprise in store for Judy.

"I had seen a crowd of people watching the Ferris wheel, and he kept covering my view of it," Judy recalled. "I wanted to talk to

all the people gathered. I asked him why I couldn't talk to them, and he kept saying, 'No, no, no. We're getting on next.'"

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