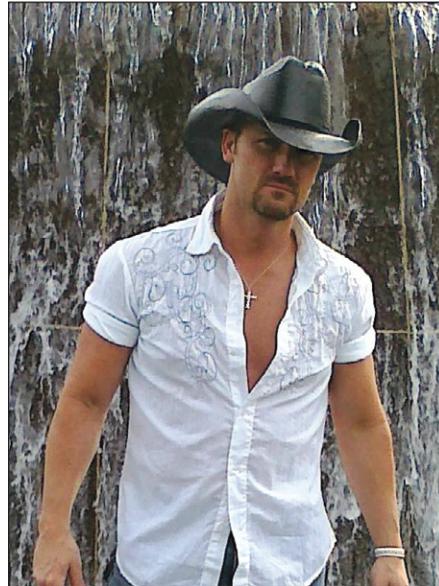


# From country to 80s rock to talent showcase, Lapeer Days offers loads of free entertainment

BY ABIGAIL WISE  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

**LAPEER** — From country to rock and local bands to national headlining acts, the stages at Lapeer Days will be rocking, jamming and crooning all weekend long.

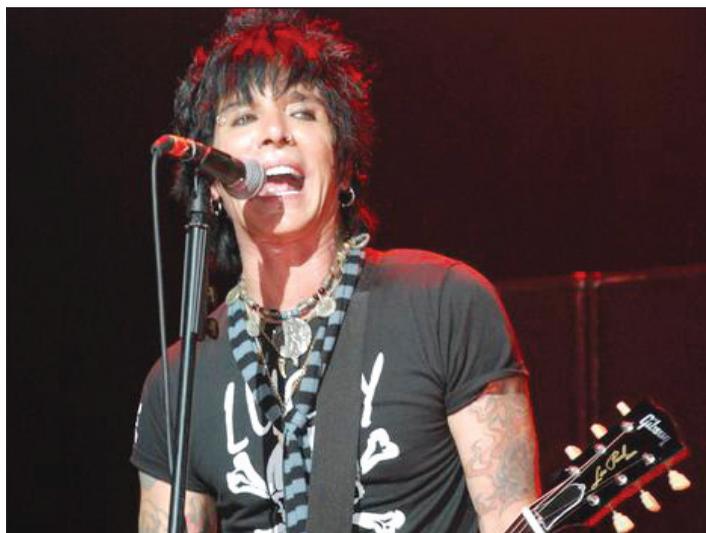
There's some "pretty good, big entertainment — national level" coming to Lapeer Days this year, said Neda Payne, executive director of the Lapeer Area Chamber of Commerce. Payne expects that, as usual, Friday and Saturday will "draw huge crowds," but, she is also anticipating that Sunday may be more of a crowd pleaser this year. With performers such as Kali Rose, Levi Riggs and American Idol Season 9's Casey James, Lapeer Days' Sunday lineup has more big names than past years. "Sunday is a huge lineup," said Payne.



Lee Crites as Tim McGraw.



Heavy metal rock band Dokken will perform Saturday night.



John Corabi, formerly of Motley Crue.

On Friday, country loving festival goers will find plenty of entertainment with artists such as country music superstar JoDee Messina, Tim McGraw tribute artist Lee Crites and Brian Lorente and the Usual Suspects performing throughout the afternoon and evening. Rock lovers can rock out to Saturday's lineup of performances by Dokken, John Corabi (formerly of Motley Crue), School of Rock, War Machine and others.

Lehua Lani's Polynesian Dancers will also perform in the early afternoon on Saturday. Lehua Lani is "a really nice addition," said Payne, noting that, for the last few years, festival organizers have tried to book at least one different act for Lapeer Days. "The Polynesian dancers we thought were unique," said Payne.

Those who are more interested in per-

forming than watching others perform still have time to sign up for the Lapeer Talent Showcase. While in the past, the showcase was strictly a singing competition, for the first time this year, other types of acts are invited to participate. As of last Wednesday, 15 acts were signed up for the showcase; a maximum of 40 acts can compete.

The showcase runs through two elimination rounds on Friday and Saturday, with the winners chosen at Sunday's finale. Thus far most of the acts signed up for the showcase have been singers, and Payne said she is hoping for more variety. Payne encouraged anyone interested in competing in the showcase to sign up as soon as possible.

The registration form for the Talent Showcase, as well as a full schedule of bands and other entertainment coming up at Lapeer Days can be found at [www.lapeerdays.com](http://www.lapeerdays.com).



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