

Mad Folk News

John Gorka and Amilia K Spicer at The Brink May 5

♪ The first Madison heard of John Gorka was at least 25 years ago, when he opened for Tom Paxton here. These many years later, John appears on May 5 at the Brink, celebrating the release of his newest album, his 14th: True in Time. It is first project with the Compass Records Group, which acquired Red House Records this past November.

Folk musician and family man, singer/songwriter John Gorka utilizes a rare knack for storytelling to envelope listeners, transporting them to new realities through vivid attention to place and time.

Born in New Jersey, John Gorka got his start at a neighborhood coffeehouse in eastern Pennsylvania. Though small, Godfrey Daniels was and is one of the oldest and most venerable music institutions and has long been a hangout for music lovers and aspiring musicians. In the late 1970's, John was was one of these aspiring musicians. Although his academic coursework at Moravian College lay in Philosophy and History, music began to offer paramount enticements. Soon he found himself living in the club's basement and acting as resident MC and sound man, encountering legendary folk troubadours like Canadian singer-songwriter Stan Rogers, Eric Andersen, Tom Paxton and Claudia Schmidt. Their brand of folk-inspired acoustic music inspired him, and before long he was performing his own songs – mostly as an opener for visiting acts.

By the early 80's John started traveling to New York City, where Jack Hardy's legendary Fast Folk circle, a breeding ground for many a major singer-songwriter, became a powerful source of education and encouragement. In time, folk meccas like Texas' Kerrville Folk Festival, where he won the New Folk Award in 1984, and Boston followed, and his stunningly soulful baritone voice and original songwriting began turning heads. Those who had at one time inspired him – Suzanne Vega, Bill Morrissey, Nanci Griffith, Christine

Lavin, Shawn Colvin – had become his peers.


In 1987, the young Minnesota-based Red House Records caught wind of John's talents and released his first album, I Know, to popular and critical acclaim. His rich multifaceted songs full of depth, beauty and emotion gained increasing attention from critics and audiences across the country, as well as in Europe where his tours led him through Italy, Belgium, Scotland, Ireland, Holland, Switzerland and Germany. He also started sharing tours with many notable friends—Nanci Griffith and Mary Chapin Carpenter among them. All this brought his music to an ever-widening audience. His video for the single “When She Kisses Me” found a long-term rotation on VH-1's “Current Country,” as well as on CMT and the Nashville Network.

His deep and steady voice is like the Bing Crosby of singer-songwriters, and the feeling of assuredness and comfort in that voice is one that few others evoke. John's musical partnerships span decades and include friends like Eliza Gilkyson, Pete Kennedy (The Kennedys) and Lucy Kaplansky. If you follow the trail of his writing, you'll find deep and meaningful songs from one of the genre's most quietly thoughtful troubadours.

Though a long way from Godfrey Daniels, John Gorka is still honored to be a part of the folk tradition — energetic acoustic music that is not a trend, not a fad, but an expression of everyday life.

MadFolk is happy to be presenting this concert at The Brink Lounge, 701 E. Washington at 7pm on May 5. Buy tickets online at MADFOLK.ORG, Orange Tree Imports and Spruce Tree Music. \$23 advance or \$25 day of show.

Mad Folk Concert Tickets

When you see this symbol –  – you'll know that you're reading about a Mad Folk sponsored event. Advance tickets for Mad Folk shows are available online at www.madfolk.org and at these outlets:

- Orange Tree Imports, 1721 Monroe Street
- Spruce Tree Music, 851 East Johnson

Purchase tickets ONLINE for Mad Folk concerts via Brown Paper Tickets (with \$1.62 service charge):

<https://www.brownpapertickets.com/producer/10879>

You can also purchase advance tickets by mail. Send a stamped self-addressed envelope with your check payable to Mad Folk, PO Box 665, Madison, WI 53701. If all else fails, call 608-846-9214 for information.

East Side Acoustic Ensemble

Sunday, April 29 at the Wil-Mar Center

Acoustic instruments, tuneful music, melodic voices, and neighbors and friends – that's what ESAE (East Side Acoustic Ensemble) is all about. Everyone who enjoys music and cares about community is invited to a concert at the Wil-Mar Center on Sunday, April 29, 7:30 pm, to hear talented local musicians create some beautiful blues, folk, rock, old-time, and traditional music.

Local singer-songwriter Ritt Deitz, who plays and records in the Madison area with his quartet, founded ESAE last year as a pop-up neighborhood ensemble for experienced players looking to push themselves in new directions in a short time frame. ESAE seasons last a total of eight weeks and end with a live performance. The Fall 2017 inaugural season ended with a standing-room-only show at Mother Fool's on Williamson Street. ESAE started up again at the end of February, and the Spring 2018 ensemble was off and running.

ESAE produces its set organically, working in both small-ensemble and full-ensemble settings. Most tunes are covers, but the concert program always includes several original songs written by ESAE members. This year's season show will be emceed by local musician and WORT-FM radio personality, Jonathan Zarov, who was a Fall 2017 ESAE member.

The roster:

- Ritt Deitz, Director (guitar, piano, percussion, vocals)
- Al Ames (guitar, vocals)
- Jamie Ames (vocals)
- Wilder Deitz (keyboard, guitar, percussion, vocals)
- Gene Delcourt (violin, viola, guitar, vocals)
- Dave Foss (dulcimer, percussion, vocals)
- Anne Katz (vocals, kazoo)
- Laura McIsaac Haase (violin, vocals)
- Lis Shea (vocals)
- Steph Stringer (vocals, harmonica)
- Diana Wheeler (violin, vocals)

The spring ESAE concert takes place at the Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer Street, Madison, on Sunday, April 29, starting at 7:30 pm. Admission is \$5 and all are welcome.



Mark Croft Concert in Columbus

The Columbus Public Library is excited to announce the debut of a new area music venue this spring! The Library Annex at 251 W James St., a historic residence next door to the library, opened in 2017 to serve as home base for our community partner organizations as well as studio space for local artists. Growing out of the library's commitment to community engagement, these connections have brought new opportunities to foster a vibrant creative culture in our neck of the woods. On Saturday April 7, all are welcome for a free "House Concert" from 7 to 9 p.m. featuring the music of southern Wisconsin's own Mark Croft.

Mark Croft (www.markcroftmusic.com) is an award-winning singer/songwriter and acoustic guitarist with a Roots, Pop & Americana-inspired approach to soulful performance with infectious rhythms. Taking place

in the Annex's intimate living-room setting, the show offers a compellingly different musical experience for local residents and for out-of-towners to make an evening getting to know Columbus' historic charm and friendly atmosphere.

The event is free and open to the public, with donations (\$10 suggested) to be collected at the door for the performer. In addition, refreshments and used books will be on sale to benefit the Friends of the Columbus Public Library.

We look forward to hosting music lovers from near and far in our "community living room." Come jam on James Street with us!





Review by Kiki Schueler

The name Marie/Lepanto may seem a strange name for a duo where neither is named Marie, nor is either a woman. But it makes perfect sense to anyone who has seen the exit for Marshall/Deerfield and thought that would be an excellent name for a lawman in a modern western. Or heard Marques Bovre's song "Ixonla Sullivan" and smiled, knowing that's exit 275 between Johnson Creek and Oconomowoc. The towns of Marie and Lepanto flank I-55 just north of Memphis, and consequently it's a road sign Justin Kinkel-Schuster saw often as he drove south from St Louis. Those names stuck with him, and it seemed a logical choice when he and Will Johnson needed a name for their collaboration. The fact that the towns lay roughly between they grew up, in Southeast Missouri and Western Arkansas respectively, makes it an even better fit. Pointing out that the record was recorded in Memphis (at Sam Phillips Studio) almost seems superfluous. The pair was given a tour of the space by producer Jeff Powell, who, in addition to producing records for the Afghan Whigs and Big Star, had worked with each of them individually. Once he suggested the two might want to record something there, it was only a matter of time.

The result is Tenkiller, ten tracks of gorgeous vocals and aching guitar that range from sparse to lush, from ballad-y to buzzy. The pair split lead vocals, but only occasionally contribute backing vo-

cals for the other. Each of their voices are heartbreakingly gorgeous on their own, but on those few tracks where they both sing, pardon the hyperbole, it's like angels. Opening track "Patient, Patient Man" is one of those, you hear Johnson's voice first, while Kinkel-Schuster joins in at the end of each line. The title could just as well describe our songwriters; most of the tracks unspool without urgency, taking the sonically scenic route. Kinkel-Schuster for the most part sticks to the quiet, soul-baring style of his 2016 solo record Constant Stranger. "Clean Gift," "Rest Be Mine," and "Simple Scenes" consist of little more than vocals, acoustic guitar and a softly brushed snare. The latter is particularly devastating, the lyrics revealing a broken relationship. What starts off promising, "Safe in dreams I walk with you, safe in dreams I am young, I still hear those last kind words that you gave to me," eventually comes to the realization that "there ain't nothing left for you and me but complicated lines in simple scenes." On the other hand, the oasis of "High Desert" recalls the magic of Kinkel-Schuster's previous band the Water Liars.

While Johnson has his share of leisurely songs, in particular the stunning "Famished Raven" with its intoxicating vocals and a piano so subtle you think you imagined it, he is also willing to lay on the effects. "Features/Fights" combines smart lyrics ("I am setting out at dawn, realizing all my gods are gone.") with an urgent beat and an increasingly fuzzed out guitar. "The Rail" takes those effects even further, all the way to the seven minute mark, where it may or may not have overstayed its welcome. "Inverness" will come as a salve to those who still mourn the loss of Johnson's band Centromatic, but this time all the parts are played by the duo, from the drumstick count-in to the hearty guitars. It's hard to imagine, but then

again, I still can't believe that two of my favorite voices made a record together. Though I guess it kind of makes sense, because they are also two of my favorite people.

Marie/Lepanto will play Kiki's House of Righteous Music on April 9 at 8 pm. Tickets are available at undertowshows.com.

Mad Folk News is published monthly by the Madison Folk Music Society, a non-profit, volunteer-led society dedicated to fostering folk music in the Madison area.

Contact us at madfolk@charter.net. Learn about concerts, membership, scholarships, and volunteer opportunities at www.madfolk.org.

www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835

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<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Madison-Folk-Music-Society/34497984835>

“With a tangle of songs that emotionally connect us all and leave a tender trace, John Gorka stimulates the cerebrum, keeps our smiles agile and fit and reconnects us with what really matters most in music: honesty.” —The Huffington Post



**Madison Folk Music
Society PRESENTS**

John Gorka

with opener by Amilia K Spicer

Saturday, May 5, 2018

7:00 pm

THE BRINK LOUNGE, 701 E. Washington, Suite 105

Tickets \$23 advance, \$25 day of show

Available at: www.madfolk.org,

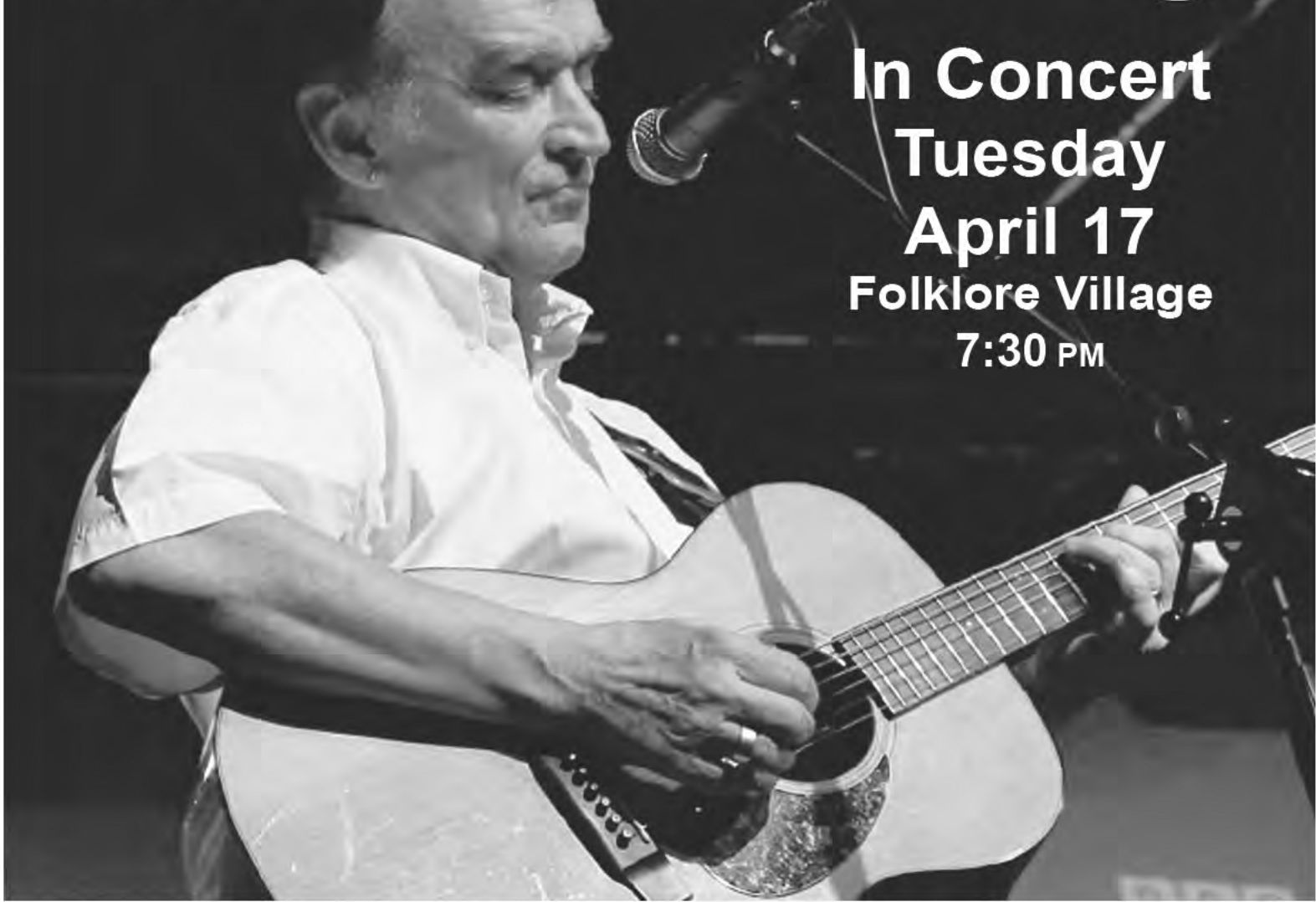
Spruce Tree Music, Orange Tree Imports

Non-perishable donations of food will be collected for local food banks.



Martin Carthy

In Concert
Tuesday
April 17
Folklore Village
7:30 PM



\$15 in advance / \$20 Day of Show
7:30 PM (Doors at 7:00) 608•924•4000
mcarthyatfv.brownpapertickets.com

“Arguably the greatest English folk song performer, writer, collector and editor of them all” —Q Magazine

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Wisconsin Arts Board with funds from the State of Wisconsin and the National Endowment for the Arts.



Promotional support provided by WORT 89.9 FM



FOLKLORE VILLAGE

...passing it on

2 mi West of Ridgeway; 1/2 mile off Hwy 18/151
at 3210 County BB, Dodgeville WI

www.folklorevillage.org

Other upcoming events:

APRIL	14 Community Dance with Foot-Notes
	20-22 English Country Dance Wknd
	28 Tibetan Culture Day & Book Launch
MAY	5 Family Maypole Dance Evening
	12 Friends' "Spring Hop" Fundraiser

The Mad Folk Refrigerator Cover

Apr 2018

Mad Folk Events



John Gorka & Amilia K Spicer

Saturday May 5th - \$23 adv / \$25 d.o.s.
7pm (doors @6:30)
The Brink Lounge 701 E. Washington Ave. Ste 105
608-661-8599

Garnet Rogers & Archie Fisher

Saturday September 22nd



Don't forget!
Non-perishable donations of food are collected for local food banks at all Mad Folk shows!

- Sat, Apr 7 @ 7:30 pm - Common Chord - Old Schoolhouse, Mount Horeb
- Thu, Apr 19 @ 7:00 pm - Tracy Jane Comer w/Alan Maslowski and special guest singer-songwriter Michael Gruber - The Brink Lounge, Madison
- Sat, May 19 @ 7:00 pm - Common Chord - Lakeside St. Coffee House, Madison
- Sat, Jun 2 @ 7:00 pm - Common Chord - Chocolaterian Middleton, Middleton
- Fri, June, 15, 2018 @ 6:00 pm - Common Chord - The Hop Garden Tap Room/ Paoli Terrace and Park, Paoli
- Thu, Jun 21 @ 7:00 pm - Common Chord - The Brink Lounge, Madison
- Thu, Jul 19 @ 7:00 pm - Tracy Jane Comer w/Alan Maslowski with special guest singer-songwriter John Jacobs - The Brink Lounge, Madison
- Fri, August, 17, 2018 @ 6:00 pm - Common Chord - The Hop Garden Tap Room/ Paoli Terrace
- Sat, Oct 13 @ 7:00 pm - Common Chord - Lakeside St. Coffee House, Madison

Jigs

Mike and Carol's House

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.
For full details or to request an invitation, contact Mike at maddog210@icloud.com

- Monday, April 2nd @ 7pm (doors 6:30) Windborne - \$15
- Thursday, Apr 12th @ 7pm (doors 6:30) - Charlie King - \$15
- Saturday, April 28th @ 8pm (doors 7:30) - Cindy Mangsen & Steve Gillette - \$15
- Sunday May 6 @ 7pm (doors 6:30) Tom Kastle - \$15

Kiki's Righteous House of Music

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.
For full details or to request an invitation, contact Kiki at righteousmusicgmt@gmail.com

- Monday, April 9th @ 8pm (doors at 7) Marie/Lepanto -- \$20
- Saturday, April 21st @ 8pm (doors at 7) Robbie Fulks -- \$15

Dave & Anne Host Folk

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.
For full details or to request an invitation, contact Dave & Anne at annedave@chorus.net - 608-256-2958

- Thursday, April 26th @ 7:30 pm (doors at 7) Joe Crookston - \$20 / \$17 under 18
- Friday, May 11th @ 7:30 pm (doors at 7) Harpeth Rising - \$20 / \$17 under 18

East Side Acoustic Ensemble (ESAE)

For full details email ritt@rittdeitz.com
Wil-Mar Neighborhood Center - 953 Jenifer St, Madison
• Sunday, April 29th @ 7:30pm - End of season Performance

Pat and Mary Ellen McCluskey

Invitation & Advance RSVP required.
For full details or to request an invitation, contact Jenny at threeplygardens@gmail.com or 608-986-3760
• Wednesday, April 11th @ 7pm (doors 6:15pm) JigJam - \$20-\$25

Venues



18 S. Water St.
Ft. Atkinson, WI
cafecarpe.com
920-563-9391

Cafe Carpe

All shows at 8:30pm unless indicated otherwise.
Please call 920-563-9391 to reserve.

- Fri, Apr 6th, Mare Edstrom & Kenn Fox - \$10
- Sat, Apr 7th, Tim Grimm w/ Jon Brooks & Jackson Grimm - \$15
- Sun, Apr 12th, New Pioneers - @7pm - \$10
- Thu, Apr 13th, Vance Gilbert - \$15
- Fri, Apr 14th, Johnsmith
- Sat, Apr 20th, Tom Waselchuk & John Parrot - \$10
- Thu, Apr 26th, Song Circle w/ Tricia Alexander - @7pm - \$5
- Sat, Apr 27th, Rod Picott w/ Ben de la Cour - \$15

FOLKLORE VILLAGE

3210 Cty Hwy BB
Dodgeville, WI
folklorevillage.org
608-924-4000

Folklore Village

- Tue, Apr 3 @7pm - First Tuesday Open Mic
- Sat, Apr 14 - @7:30pm - Community Dance w/ Foot-Notes
- Tue, Apr 17 - @7:30pm - Martin Carthy in Concert
- Fri-Sun, Apr 20-22 English Country Dance & Music Weekend
- Sat, Apr 28 - Book Launch & Tibetan Culture Evening

Wild Hog in the Woods

- Fri, Apr 6 - Bill and Bobbie Malone - @7:30pm
- Fri, Apr 13 - The Harmonica Hour - @7:30pm
- Fri, Apr 20 - Skip Jones and Frank Anakwand Montano @7:30pm



Wil-Mar Center
953 Jenifer St.
wildhoginthewoods.org
608-233-5687

Misc

Old Time Jam

Monthly - 3rd Sunday of every month, 4 to 6pm
EVP West 3809 Mineral Point Road
Coordinator: Al Wilson
cell: 608-572-0634
adwilson@pediatrics.wisc.edu

Madison Area Ukulele Initiative -- Singalongs 3rd Sunday 11am - 1:30pm
- for location visit www.MAUMadison.com

On the Air



Simply Folk on Wisconsin Public Radio w/ Dan Robinson, Host

Sun 5:00-8:00pm
Concerts recorded in Wisconsin, music and dance of people the world over. For playlists, calendars, station listings, and more, visit www.wpr.org/simplyfolk.



WORT 89.9 FM community radio

Sun -- 3:00-5:00pm
• "On the Horizon" w/ Ford Blackwell, Paul Novak, Gloria Hays & Helena White
Weekdays 9:00am-noon
• Mon - Global Revolutions (folk from the world over) w/ Dan Talmo & Martin Alvarado
• Tue -- One Fine Morning w/ P.C. Allen
• Wed -- Back to the Country (country music on a theme) w/Bill Malone
• Thur -- Diaspora (folk and international) w/Terry O'
• Fri -- Mud Acres (bluegrass and acoustic) w/Chris Powers



WVMO The Voice of Monona - Promoting the best in Good Music - Roots Music - Americana Music Plus Community Members Hosted Shows Streaming Live and on your mobile device through tunein radio

• African/African-American Dance classes with live drumming -- Sun, 7:00-9:00pm -- Metro Dance, 3009 University Ave. -- 255-3677 / 251-4311

• SpiritMoves Ecstatic Dance 2nd and 4th Weds, 7:00-9:00 pm -- The Center for Conscious Living, 849 East Washington Ave. -- \$7 min. donation

• English Country Dance taught-1st, 3rd (and 5th) Mon7:30-9:30pm -- Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. -- 238-9951 or 231-1040

• International Dancing -- Wed; classes 7:30-8:30pm, request dancing 8:30-11:00pm -- The Crossing, 1127 University Ave. -- 241-3655 and Sun, 8-10pm

• Irish Dancing -- Monthly Ceili and set dance events are posted at celticmadison.org/dance

• Italian Dancing -- Tue, 7:00-9:00pm, no experience or partner necessary -- 838-9403 (Philana)

• Madison Contra Dance Cooperative -- Tue; 7:30 jam band practice, intermediate level dancing 7:45-9:40pm -- \$5 for non-members -- Gates of Heaven, 302 E. Gorham -- 238-3394 (Steve)

• Morris Dancing -- Wed, 7:00pm - Neighborhood House 29 S Mills St. - casey.garhart@tds.net or John at 238-3847

• Scottish Country Dancing -- Sun, 7:00pm -- Wil-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. -- 358-4478

• Israeli Folk Dancing -- Tues, 7:00pm -- Will-Mar Center, 953 Jenifer St. Melissa Marver -- mdmarver@gmail.com

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There are two ways to renew your **tax-deductible** membership

Way #1 – online

Visit www.madfolk.org and click on "Join MFMS"

Way #2 – unplugged

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Madison Folk Music Society

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Life \$500 _____

Scholarship fund donation (optional) \$ _____

Total \$ _____

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