

# MSRA LADIES SHOWCASE

AT THE CROSS ROADS OF UNDERWOOD AND JUDSON,  
FRIDAY 9AM-6PM, SATURDAY 9AM-6PM, SUNDAY 9AM-2PM

LSC VENDORS 2016	DESCRIPTION	BOOTH #
II UNIQUE	FUN ITEMS NOT TO BE FOUND EVERYWHERE. WE ARE A UNIQUE BOUTIQUE	63
AIHU ESSENTIALS FOR HEALING	AROMATHERAPY, HEALING SKIN CARE & ANTI - STRESS PRODUCTS	32
ANOTHER LOOK	NEW UNIQUE PRODUCTS. SALES DEMONSTRATIONS	26,31,41,42
ARTISTRY OF PERMANENT MAKEUP	PERMANENT MAKEUP: EYE LINER & EYEBROWS	17
ARROW PRODUCTS HIP KLIP	SMALL, SLEEK, SECURE. HANDS / SHOULDER FREE	2
BOJI	CUSTOM FIT STERLING SILVER AND GOLD FILLED TOE RINGS	1
BUCKLEY NATURALS	ALL NATURAL PRODUCTS AND LOTIONS	16
CHEMA MALU	GIFT SHOP IN DOWNTOWN ANOKA: GIFTS, TREASURES, LOCAL ARTISTS	50
CLEVER CONTAINER	WE PROVIDE ORGANIZING TIPS, TECHNIQUES AND PRODUCTS TO SIMPLIFY	58
COUNTRY CHARM QUILTS	SELLERS OF DESIGNER QUILTS AND LUXURY BLANKETS	39,40
CUSTOM REMODELERS, INC	FREE DRAWING FOR \$20,000 IN HOME REMODELING	9
CUTCO	MADE IN USA SINCE 1949- FOREVER GUARANTEE - FREE SHARPENING	67
D & D DESIGNS	SWAROVSKI JEWELRY-NECKLACES PENDANTS, RINGS & CRYSTAL SPINNERS	28
DE LEON JEWELERS	FINE DIAMOND & GEMSTONE JEWELRY. CUSTOM DESIGNS	19
DO TERRA ESSENTIAL OILS	ESSENTIAL OILS	46
ENJOYING NAPA / WINE SHOP AT HOME	BRINGING NAPA VALLEY WINE TASTINGS TO YOUR HOME OR BUSINESS!	11
ESSENTIAL BODYWEAR	CUSTOM FIT, BRAS, PANTIES AND SHAPEWEAR	60
GIFTWORKS PLUS	PERSONALIZED CUSTOM FRAMES	52,53
IT WORKS! GLOBAL	IT WORKS! HERBAL BODY WRAPS, FACIALS, & HEALTH SUPPLEMENTS	35
JD'S SALSA SEASONING LLC	DRY SEASONING FOR SALSA, DIPS, RECIPES, BLOODY MARYS	20
JEUNESSE GLOBAL	LOOKING 10 YEARS YOUNGER WITH INSTANTLY AGELESS. LIVE DEMOS!	64
JEWELLED TEE'S	BEAUTIFULLY CRAFTED RHINESTONE SHIRTS	22
JUNCTION CITY CLOTHING CO	WOMEN'S FASHION CLOTHING & ACCESSORIES	4,5,6
KS CUNUCK LLC	HUMMINGBIRD FEEDER GUARANTEED FOR LIFE. NO BEES, ANTS OR WASPS	43
MASSAGING INSOLES	BEST MASSAGING INSOLES MADE FOR ALL FOOTWEAR. LAST 4-5 YEARS	27
MIDWEST OUTDOOR RESORTS, LLC	CAMP GROUNDS / RESORTS	65
MOTIVES COSMETICS	WORLD LEADER IN THE COSMETICS INDUSTRY. CUSTOMIZED FOUNDATIONS	8
MY NEW LEAF CENTER	MEDICAL CLINIC THAT OFFERS NATURAL SOLUTIONS FOR MENOPAUSE	24
MY PILLOW INC	BED & TRAVEL PILLOWS, MATTRESS TOPPERS, GIZA 88 SHEET SETS	7
MN POISON CONTROL CENTER	FREE STUFF, TO HELP ALL STAY HEALTHY	10
MY SELF DEFENSE GEAR	BE PREPARED. BE AWARE. BE SAFE	34
NECTAR OF THE VINE	WINE SLUSHY MIXES IN 16 ORIGINAL RECIPE FLAVORS	44
NERIUM INTERNATIONAL, STEINBERG	REAL SCIENCE BASED. ANTI AGING PRODUCTS FOR MIND, BODY & FACE	29
NIFTY 50'S BOUTIQUE	WOMEN AND CHILDREN'S 50'S CLOTHING AND ACCESSORIES	68
NONNII INC, CALI NAILS	GEL MANICURE & PEDICURES. DURABLE. FAST DRY. EASY REMOVAL	18
NORWEX	MICROFIBER & GREEN CLEANING PRODUCTS FOR HOME, CAR, & PERSONAL USE	61
OZARK MOUNTAIN DESSERT COFFEE	INSTANT DESSERT COFFEE MIXES, BEAR BREAD MIXES, DIPPING OIL	33
PERFECTLY POSH	PAMPERING PRODUCTS MADE IN THE USA AND NATURALLY BASED \$25 AND UNDER	3
PERSONALIZED GIFTS GALORE	PERSONALIZE OUR PRODUCTS ON SITE. TOTE BAGS, DUFFEL BAGS, PILLOW CASES	14,15
PURSEMAN	OVER 500 STYLES OF LADIES HANDBAGS + WALLETS @ COMPETITIVE PRICES.	48,49
REAL TIME PAIN RELIEF	ALL NATURAL PAIN RELIEF, REDUCES PAIN, INFLAMMATION, HELPS TISSUE, MUSCLES	56
RIBBON FAIR, TOYS LLC	CHILDREN'S EDUCATIONAL TOYS	36,37,66
RIANNA MARIE'S	CRYSTAL, ELEMENT, METAL WORK, JEWELRY & ACCESSORIES	45
SCENTSY	NO SOOT, SMOKE OR FLAME. A SAFE WAY TO ENJOY SCENTSY FRAGRANCE	55
SILPADA	.925 STERLING SILVER JEWELRY & K+R COLLECTION & ACCESSORIES	54
SPIRIT ATHLETICWEAR	PERFORMANCE CLOTHING OFFERS STYLE AND COMFORT	57
SYNDICATE SALES CORP	FAMILY OWNED BUSINESS SELLING QUALITY PRODUCTS SINCE THE 1930'S	25
TASTEFULLY SIMPLE	EASY TO PREPARE GOURMET FOODS AND MEAL SOLUTIONS	62
TERRY EGGAN CONSULTING, LLC	JEWELRY CLEANER, MADE OF BANANA + COCONUT. NON TOXIC. BIO DEGRADABLE	51
THIRTY ONE GIFTS	PROVIDING ORGANIZATION TO EVERYONES HOME	12
THRIVE BY LE-VEL	#1 HEALTH AND WELLNESS MOVEMENT IN NORTH AMERICA	21
TOP TIER	CAKE, COOKIE, AND CANDY MAKING EQUIPMENT. FREE DEMOS AND RECIPES	13
TULIP TINTS	L'PAIGE COLOR CHANGING LIPSTICKS + BRONZERS, PEARLS AND TREASURES	38
TUPPERWARE	TUPPERWARE	47
TWO FOOTLOOSE SOLES	QUALITY FOOTWEAR AT REASONABLE PRICE	23
U CAN CLICK IT	REUSABLE, HOT AND COLD PACKS	30
WATKINS	WATKINS TRUSTED NATURAL PRODUCTS SINCE 1868	59

COMO AVENUE SIDE

DRESSING ROOM

EXIT

LACTATION ROOM

STAGE

BAGS

**LADIES SHOWCASE 2016**  
**1694 JUDSON AVE**  
**ST PAUL, MN**

**YOU ARE INVITED**  
**JUST FOR THE FUN OF IT**

FRIDAY 9AM-6PM  
 SATURDAY 9AM-6PM  
 SUNDAY 9AM-2PM

68 Commercial Vendors  
 For Your Shopping Pleasure

**FRIDAY AT STAGE:**

LSC Bag Give Away,  
 Free Make Overs,  
 Salon Certificates to Win,  
 Motivational Speaker,  
 Rose Plant Give Away,  
 Dance & Entertainment,  
 Fashion Show,  
 Fashion Certificates to Win,  
 Cake Making Demo,  
 Makeup Hints and Tips,  
 Spa Certificates to Win,  
 Dice Game,  
 LSC Gift Certificates to Win,

**SATURDAY AT STAGE:**

LSC Bag Give Away,  
 Laughing Yoga,  
 Self Defense,  
 Dance & Entertainment,  
 Rose Planting Info,  
 Rose Plant Give Away,  
 Apple Torte Demo,  
 Gift Certificates to Win,  
 Sweet Adelines,  
 Star Chiefs Band,

**SUNDAY AT STAGE:**

LSC Bag Give Away,  
 Truffle Making Demo,  
 Gift Certificates to Win,  
 Scanncut 2 Demo,  
 Birthday Cake for 400,

**Lactation Room**  
**To the West of the Stage**

Air-Conditioned,  
 With Changing Table,  
 Oversized Chairs,  
 Electrical Outlet

13 TOP TIER

12 THIRTY ONE GIFTS

11 ENJOYING NAPA

10 POISON CENTER

9 CUSTOM REMODELERS

8 MOTIVES COSMETICS

7 MY PILLOW

6 JUNCTION CITY CLOTHING

5 JUNCTION CITY CLOTHING

4 JUNCTION CITY CLOTHING

3 PERFECTLY POSH

2 ARROW PRODUCTS HIP CLIPS

1 BOJI TOE RINGS

68 NIFTY 50'S BOUTIQUE

67 CUTCO

66 RIBBON FAIR TOYS

65 MIDWEST OUTDOOR RESORTS

64 JEUNESSE GLOBAL

63 II UNIQUE

62 TASEFULLY SIMPLE

61 NORWEX

60 ESSENTIAL BODY WEAR

59 WATKINS	58 CLEVER CONTAINER	57 SPIRIT ATHLETIC WEAR	56 REAL TIME PAIN RELIEF	55 SCENTS Y	54 SILPADA
53 GIFT WORKS PLUS	52 GIFT WORKS PLUS	51 TERRY EGGAN CONSULTNG	50 CHEMA MALU	49 PURSE MAN	48 PURSE MAN

47 TUPPER WARE	46 DOTERRA ESSENTIAL OILS	45 RIANNA MARIE'S	44 NECTAR OF THE VINE	43 KSCANUCK	42 ANOTHER LOOK
41 ANOTHER LOOK	40 COUNTRY CHARM QUILTS	39 COUNTRY CHARM QUILTS	38 TULIP TINTS	37 RIBBON FAIR TOYS	36 RIBBON FAIR TOYS

35 IT WORKS GLOBAL	34 MY SELF DEFENSE GEAR	33 OZARK MOUNTAIN DESSERT COFFEE	32 AIHU ESSENTIALS 4 HEALING	31 ANOTHER LOOK
30 U CAN CLICK IT	29 NERIUM INTER NATIONAL	28 D + D DESIGNS	27 MASSAGING INSOLES	26 ANOTHER LOOK

25 SYNDICATE SALES	24 MY NEW LEAF CENTER	23 TWO FOOTLOOSE SOLES	22 JEWELLED TEES	21 THRIVE BY LE-VEL	20 JD'S SALSA SEASONING
19 DE LEON JEWELRY	18 CALI NAILS	17 ARTISTRY OF PERM MAKEUP	16 BUCKLEYS NATURALS	15 PERSONALIZED GIFTS GALORE	14 PERSONALIZED GIFTS GALORE

REST ROOM REST ROOM

MAIN ENTRANCE

OFFICE

**MSRA LADIES SHOWCASE**  
AT THE CROSS ROADS OF UNDERWOOD AND JUDSON,  
FRIDAY 9AM-6PM, SATURDAY 9AM-6PM, SUNDAY 9AM-2PM

Updates to this schedule can be found at [msrabacktothe50's.com/ladies-showcase/](http://msrabacktothe50's.com/ladies-showcase/)  
**GA = GIVE AWAY    GC = GIFT CERTIFICATE    LSC = LADIES SHOWCASE**

**EACH DAY**

- ALL DAY LACTATION AREA - Relaxing, air-conditioned area for nursing mothers and their babies. Back of the building, to the right of the stage, next to booth #13. Oversized chairs, changing table and electrical outlet available.
- ALL DAY BAILEY NURSERIES, 1325 BAILEY ROAD, ST. PAUL, MN 55119, Beautifying the Ladies Showcase entryway with Easy Elegance roses. GA Bailey Nurseries is generously allowing us to give away the rose bushes. Drawings after several of our presentations.
- 9:00 AM GA 1000 LADIES SHOWCASE 2016 BAGS - Fri / Sat ladies 18+ only, Sunday men 18+ included.

**FRIDAY ON STAGE**

- 8:15 AM HAIR EXPRESSIONS MAKE OVER CALL - Be interviewed to be a finalist for a hair and makeup makeover. LSC FRONT DOOR
- 9:00 AM HAIR EXPRESSIONS SEMIFINALISTS ANNOUNCED - Three will be chosen by the audience, to be taken to the Hair Expressions Salon for the hair portion of their makeover and returned at 2:30pm for the makeup portion.  
Provided by Hair Expressions, 3551 Lexington Ave, Arden Hills, MN 55126. GA TWO, \$50.00 GC
- 10:00 AM DO WHAT YOU LOVE, KENT VANHELING - Dr K's presentations will make you laugh, cry and cheer. Part sermon, part vaudeville comedy, part magic. All of it inspiring. Make sure you read Kent's article "It Was A Great Day At The Beach Charlie Brown in the June issue of the LineChaser or here on line. GA ROSES
- 11:00 AM TRICIA WOOD'S DANCE & ENTERTAINMENT COMPETITION DANCE TEAM - The stage is larger and Tricia is bringing her own dance floor surface to allow the Dance and entertainment dance team to be more like DWTS ([www.danceandentertainment.com](http://www.danceandentertainment.com))
- 12:00 PM FASHION SHOW - This is our yearly romp into what is trending in fashion with Dr. Mike as our MC. This year we have our four in house clothiers who will be giving you their view point on what things to add to your wardrobe. Sponsored by: II UNIQUE, JUNCTION CITY, NIFTY 50'S BOUTIQUE AND SPIRIT ATHLETIC WEAR. GA SIXTEEN \$25.00 GC's.
- 1:30 PM NANCY BURGESON / TOP TIER - Super Simple Ideas for a Lovely Cake in No Time At All. Nancy presents great recipes for simple, gorgeous ways to trim and present your desserts that will have your guests going "WOW"! GA TWO, \$10.00 GC
- 2:30 PM HAIR EXPRESSIONS MAKE OVER RECIPIENTS RETURN. Hair & makeup hints and tips. Clothing for makeover, provided by our in house clothiers is not part of makeover give away. GA TWO, \$50.00 GC
- 4:00 PM DICE GAME -Rules: Must be 18+ years to toss the dice. If you get 5 of a kind you will be mentioned in the LineChaser as one of the luckiest dice throwers ever at the Ladies Showcase. Once you have thrown the dice (even if you don't get 5 of a kind) you can draw to see if you win a Ladies Showcase gift certificate. Getting five of a kind does not affect your chances of winning a prize. GA THIRTY-FOUR, \$10.00 GC + EIGHT, \$25.00 GC {GAME ENDS @ 5:00 PM or when prizes are gone which ever comes first}.

**SATURDAY ON STAGE**

- 9:00 AM LAUGH FOR THE HEALTH OF IT - Sarah Routman is a certified laughter yoga leader and teacher. She will show you how to giggle yourself into a happier and healthier life in just minutes a day. GA ROSES
- 10:00 AM SELF DEFENSE - How safe are you? We all know that we should be aware of our surroundings. But what else? Join us for some possibilities on how to be a safer you. Presented by DOJO KARATE, [www.dojokarate.com/](http://www.dojokarate.com/)
- 11:00 AM TRICIA WOOD'S DANCE & ENTERTAINMENT COMPETITION DANCE TEAM - They really are fantastic. If you missed them Yesterday, you have a second opportunity to see this enthusiastic group of dancers.
- 12:00 PM GET THE DIRT ON ROSES - Debbie Lonnee shares her expertise on the different kinds of roses and how to correctly plant and successfully take care of your rose bushes. Presented by Bailey Nurseries, 1325 Bailey Road, St Paul, MN 55119, GA ROSES
- 1:30 PM NANCY BURGESON / TOP TIER- Everything's Coming Up Apples. While you sit and enjoy a nice free apple, Nancy will dazzle you as she whips up some really cool apple treats. Have you ever tried an apple torte or an apple rose pastry that is so easy it has only 5 ingredience. Both are so delicious. GA.TWO, \$10.00 GC and apples to all who attend.
- 2:30 PM SWEET ADELINES - Three different groups of Sweet Adelines will perform for you. Listen while you shop or sit down and take stress off from your feet while you enjoy the music.
- 3:30 PM STAR CHIEFS This rockabilly band presents us with a musical treat each year. Stop by, get out of the heat, sit a spell and enjoy some toe tapping time.

**SUNDAY ON STAGE**

- 10:00 AM NANCY BURGESON / TOP TIER - Lots and Lots of Truffles!! This is one of the most popular classes that Nancy teaches. There are so many flavors that can be used to make delicious truffle candies. You will be the talk of the town when you present these lovely truffles to your guests. GA. TWO, \$10.00 GC and a truffle to those in attendance. Bet you can't eat just one.
- 11:00 AM SCANNCUT2 DEMO - Amanda Young will have the latest and greatest in crafting technology for you to see. The new and improved Scanncut2, cuts applique, fabric pieces and quilt blocks with ease. You have to see this for your selves. It is awesome. Brought to you by KNIT N SEW WORLD, 119 S Minnesota Avenue, St Peter, MN 56082 507-934-3741
- 12:00 PM CAKE FOR 400 OF OUR CLOSEST FRIENDS - We love a party. Join us for a piece of cake made by Nancy Bugeson to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Ladies Showcase.

**These are the businesses and people who have agreed donate their time to do one or more presentations, on stage, at the Ladies Showcase. They help to round out a fun time for you at our event. Names appear in order of appearance on stage. Support them by considering the products that they carry. Let them know you saw them at the Ladies Showcase when you visit them.**

BAILEY NURSERIES, 1325 BAILEY ROAD, ST. PAUL, MN 55119. [baileynurseries.com](http://baileynurseries.com) Bailey Nurseries is a fifth generation family-owned company, recognized as one of the largest wholesale nurseries in the United States. They are known for producing and distributing top-quality horticultural products and services. This year they are sharing their Easy Elegance Rose collection with us. You will see them in the Ladies Showcase entryway and around the stage. The Easy Elegance roses are widely recognized as the premier roses in their industry. If you win one of their rose bushes during our give aways you have the generous people at Bailey Nurseries to thank.

HAIR EXPRESSIONS SALON AND SPA, 3551 Lexington Ave, Arden Hills, MN 55126. 651-481-0162 [www.hairexpressions.biz](http://www.hairexpressions.biz) This is a full service salon and spa that has been supporting the Ladies Showcase for years. They are always friendly and go the extra mile to share hints and tips with our attendees. They work hard to provide each person with outstanding customer service, a professional environment, and top quality products. It is a fantastic place to go to be pampered.

KENT VANHELING, Ph.D., is a well known speaker and author who has entertained and inspired audiences from pre-school to seniors. He retired from a long career in health care to devote full time to speaking, writing and the restoration of an historic mansion. He has two children's books in the illustration process, as well as an antique touring car in the street rod process. Kent's article IT WAS A GREAT DAY AT THE BEACH, CHARLIE BROWN appears elsewhere in this month's LineChaser.

TRICIA WOOD'S DANCE & ENTERTAINMENT- Professional dance instructors are available to teach all styles of Ballroom, Latin, Swing and Country dancing. There are three locations to choose from: the West Bloomington studio, the Central Park-Woodbury Location, or the Maplewood Community Center. Dance & Entertainment has group classes, private lessons, performance teams and dance parties. Contact [www.danceandentertainment.com](http://www.danceandentertainment.com)).

NANCY BURGESON-Top Tier Minnesota - Nancy is a regular at the Ladies Showcase. She is always coming up with new things to share and new ways to make your confections and desserts the best ever. She is frequently on Twin Cities Live and teaches many classes around the Metro Area. You can contact her about her group classes in candy making, cookie baking and cake decorating at [toptiermn@aol.com](mailto:toptiermn@aol.com)

SARAH ROUTMAN, has presented countless Laughter Yoga sessions for corporations such as Cigna Health Care, SUPERVALU, and BWI Worldwide. She has laughed with seniors, college and high school students, families with young children, and holocaust survivors. Sarah has been featured at health conferences, women's retreats, fund raising events and humor festivals. Her goal is to inspire others to lead happier, healthier lives.

DOJO KARATE - has 7 locations in the Twin Cities area. [www.dojokarate.com/](http://www.dojokarate.com/) They are experts in martial arts, karate, self-defense and fitness for all ages and skill levels. The Dojo Karate instructors are very family orientated, focusing on each person's individual success through exercise, self-discipline, respect and positive reinforcement. They teach those skills that can be used to improve your health, confidence and concentration as well as self-defense.

SWEET ADELINES - Members extend over five continents and belong to more than 500 choruses and 1200 quartets. They sing a cappella, four part harmony music, and barbershop style. The groups that have agreed to come and entertain you during the Ladies Showcase are from three different quartets in the Twin Cities area. If you enjoy singing you can find out more at [www.sweetadelines.com](http://www.sweetadelines.com)

STAR CHIEFS BAND - Mike Rugh is the contact person for this band at [thestarchiefs@gmail.com](mailto:thestarchiefs@gmail.com). Each year this group brings an upbeat tempo to our Saturday afternoon at the Ladies Showcase. Folks are drawn from all over the building to just take some time to sit and listen. You can see toes tapping and even a few people dancing in the isles as the Star Chiefs pour their talents out on the stage. They play a large variety of music and they do it well. This is a great time to listen in and audition them for your upcoming event.

KNIT N SEW WORLD, 119 S Minnesota Avenue, St Peter, MN 56082, 507-934-3741, [www.knitsewworld.com/](http://www.knitsewworld.com/) Amanda Young is bringing in the Scanncut2. This is the latest in innovative technology for those of you who are sewers, quilters and crafters. Amanda is very knowledgeable about quilting, crafting, sewing and embroidery as well. Take advantage of her expertise. Come and be inspired to create your next project.

# IT WAS A GREAT DAY AT THE BEACH, CHARLIE BROWN

We had only seen it in magazines. Next in line for qualifying, we watched the blue Willys launch from the starting line like a BB out of a slingshot. Squinting into the sun, the parachute blossomed from the back of the car. We heard over the speakers, "11.21 seconds; and ONE HUNDRED THIRTY TWOOOOO miles per hour!" We all looked at each other with a slight shaking of heads, and managed only a couple of one word reactions: "Keeeeeerap!", and a quiet, "Unbelievable." We pushed our dusty black '32 coupe to the line, and Tommy started getting fuel pressure with our recycled Army tank and hand pump. We all knew at that moment, the sun was setting on our day at the beach.

That hot dusty day we were caught square in the crosshairs of the drag racing transition from a fun amateur sport, into a professional big business. We had a stock bodied '32 Ford five window, scrapped together in a dirt floor alley garage by a rag tag group of blue collar college kids. Never again would a car like ours be the fastest street car at the strip. What we didn't realize until years later, was that we were the Instamatic camera. We were the 8 track tape. We were the five pound bag phone. Like thousands of other racers at that time, we had put together junkyard and used parts. We had spent hours digging through the boxes and racks in Bandimere's basement in downtown Denver, and painted two houses in exchange for machine work. Our car smelled like sweat. It smelled like 15 cent McDonalds hamburgers. It smelled like dollar pancakes at 2AM at the truck stop at the edge of town. Several cars that day smelled like steak, crepes, and money. The contrast could not have been more severe. It was tattered jeans posed next to an Armani suit. Suddenly in the mid 60's, our sport was changing at warp speed, and we did not have the time or money to keep up. The parachute on the back of that Willys had floated us all back to earth and reality.

Tommy's father was seriously ill; the family dairy farm was waiting for him. Denny had overcome his stuttering well enough to be certified as a special needs teacher. Steve had been accepted to Presbyterian Seminary. My Grandfather was holding a place for me on the D&RGW railroad bridge gang while I sweated admission to pre-med graduate school. Driving spikes in the hot Utah desert sun at \$3.35 per hour, two dollars over minimum wage, was big money; I couldn't turn it down.

We never raced B/GS 007 again. Three months later it was sold. I was the last to give it a pat on the hood as it was loaded on the trailer. I had a lump in my throat, and at that moment, I truly knew what the word bittersweet meant. We needed the money, but we were not quite ready for the page turn of seeing our dusty black Deuce roll away. For a brief moment in time we had made the bright lights of center stage. A big dream had been brought to life in that little garage. We finished packing Tommy's old truck, leaving just enough room for him to squeeze in and drive. He was leaving for the family farm that afternoon. We bid him goodbye and safe travels with the assurance that we would see him soon. It had the same hollow feeling as when you said to an old girlfriend, "I'll call you.", knowing you never would. The task no one wanted had been put off as long as we possibly could; "We have to go in and tell Mrs. Mac goodbye".

We rented the garage for \$20 a month and lawn care, from a feisty silver haired widow named Nellie MacWilliams. She was a storybook character; Harry Potter glasses, white western shirts, and smelled like Chanel #5. A stroke several years prior had made a walker and wheelchair necessary. Her chocolate chip cookies would make Dracula come out in the noonday sun. Our window rattling engine reminded her of working for Grumman Aircraft during WW2. If all Rosie the Riveters were like Mrs. Mac, no wonder we won the war. The CSU dorms did not serve on Sunday night; twice a month we fixed dinner with our girlfriends at Mrs. Mac's house. Our \$20 was a little extra grocery money, and a lot of companionship. "You boys have been a Godsend to an old lady...." Denny handed her a tissue as she struggled to finish, "I will miss you all a lot...". Despite her quick wit and courage, she was 73 and very frail; I knew I would never see her again. She had watched us grow up; we had watched her deteriorate. Still today, I remember vividly how difficult it was for us to go into the kitchen, sit down at the table where we had shared four years of laughs, tea and cookies, and tell little Mrs. Mac goodbye.

I held a faded black and white photograph in my hand the other day, and I thought about the dirt floor gang. One gone from cancer, one horribly disabled from the senseless Vietnam war, and one, whereabouts unknown.

The sun had gone down on that chapter of our lives.

But it sure was a great day at the beach, Charlie Brown.

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**KENT WILL BE SPEAKING AT THE LADIES SHOWCASE ON FRIDAY, JUNE 17 AT 10:00AM**