

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE!

Craig Morgan Headlines Cornstock 2011

GARNETT, KS: The Anderson County Corn Festival, a/k/a "Cornstock", let out the announcement during the New Year's Eve Ball Drop on the town square last Friday night that country music artist Craig Morgan will be the featured act at the 2011 Cornstock Concert on the Hill.

When Craig Morgan was ten years old and on a school field trip to Nashville, he sang "*The Star-Spangled Banner*" well enough to catch the ear of a distinctive older lady in the crowd. "She walked up to me and said, "Son, someday you're gonna be a famous singer", Morgan remembers. Two-plus decades later, he'd be looking at a picture of the woman—Minnie Pearl—in the Ryman Auditorium dressing room that bears her name, getting ready for his first performance on the Grand Ole Opry. What Minnie didn't know was that before his moment in the spotlight finally came, Morgan would be an EMT, a contractor, a sheriff's deputy and a Wal-Mart assistant dairy manager. He'd also spend ten years serving his country in the U.S. Army on active duty as a Fire Support Specialist in the United States Army, serving in the 101st and 82nd Airborne Divisions before launching his music career. He holds Airborne, Jumpmaster, and Air Assault qualifications. While stationed in Korea, he won a number of singing and songwriting contests and opened a Korean show for Sawyer Brown.

Craig Morgan is one of country music's most beloved performers. It doesn't matter if he's jumping out of airplanes, putting gallon jugs on a refrigerated shelf or singing hits like "Redneck Yacht Club," "Almost Home" and "Tough"—his honesty, humility and work ethic stand out as strongly as his talent. That's Why, the long-awaited follow-up to 2006's *Little Bit of Life*, is Morgan's fifth album and BNA Records debut. From the evocative and instantly familiar single "Love Remembers" to the rural rally cry of "Sticks" to the church-choir epic "Ordinary Angels," it's the sound of an artist soaring to new heights as both a vocalist and songwriter, but with his steel-toed boots still firmly on the ground (the same cannot be said, however, for the tires of his Kawasaki motorbike). As Music Row's Bob Oermann wrote, "Craig Morgan is country music's champion of the Everyman—a loyal husband and father, unblushingly sentimental, tough enough to kick your butt if you cross him, and the kind of friend everyone would like to have."

About Morgan's music: "That's What I Love About Sunday," from Morgan's album, *My Kind of Livin'*, was the most played country song of 2005. Three songs off of *Little Bit of Life* (the title track, "Tough" and "International Harvester"), enjoyed stays in the Top 10, and he was nominated for Top New Male Vocalist by the Academy of Country Music in both 2006 and 2007. Truth is, you can't tune in to a country station anywhere in the United States without hearing a Craig Morgan song within the hour. A list of Craig Morgan hits and popular songs include:

- Love Remembers
- Redneck Yacht Club
- International Harvester

That's What I Like About Sunday,
Little Bit of Life
God Must Really Love Me
My Kind of Woman
Almost Home
This Ain't Nothin'
Sticks
It Took A Woman
Tough
I Got You
I'm Country
Lookin' Back With You
I Am
I Guess You Had To Be There
I Love It
Ordinary Angels
That's Why
Planet Her
Bonfire
Still A Little Chicken Left On That Bone (latest release)

Adding to his success, Morgan currently has a television show. The first season of *All Access Outdoors* has become the Outdoor Channel's No. 1 rated hunting show on Saturday mornings. The series, which airs at 10 a.m. Saturdays on the network, chronicles Morgan's adventures as he travels the country hunting wild game with guest celebrities and friends. Season two of *Craig Morgan: All Access Outdoors* debuts in June 2011.

"We are excited to have Craig Morgan headline Cornstock 2011", says Susan Wettstein, president of the Anderson County Corn Festival Board of Directors. The opening act is yet to be announced. The ACCF annual meeting will be held later in January where specific details of the September festival will be outlined.

Noteworthy: Craig Morgan was invited by John Conlee to become a member of the Grand Ole Opry. Morgan was formally inducted as Opry member by Conlee at the Grand Ole Opry House during the October 25, 2008 edition of the Opry. Coincidentally, John Conlee will be performing at the Anderson County Fair Music Show in July.

For more information about Cornstock and the Anderson County Corn Festival, please visit www.accornfest.com or www.cornstock.net. Find them on Facebook at www.facebook.com/accornfest.

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