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Vernon Morning Star - Entertainment

Guitarist plays for homeless



Guitarist Chris Madsen performs songs from his latest project, *Song of the Troubadour*, at the Powerhouse Theatre Friday. The concert is a fundraiser for the homeless in Vernon.

Photo submitted

Vernon Morning Star

By [Kristin Froneman - Vernon Morning Star](#)

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Chris Madsen doesn't mind asking for spare change, and he's got his guitar case open to help those in need.

The well-known guitarist, and former music school owner, is about to put on a concert to help the homeless in Vernon.

Organized by Marty Kelly, who will open the show with a set of comedy, the concert takes place at the Powerhouse Theatre Friday.

"This was Marty's idea to do the show, and together we decided to direct the money to the homeless that are really ready for a change," said Madsen. "We decided to approach it in a different way and thought the homeless shelter would probably be the best way to start."

Entry to the concert is by donation, and all are welcome to attend, however, Madsen is hoping people will open their pocketbooks to support those who are willing to re-start their lives.

"I don't want to support a person in a cycle of poverty, I want to support a person who wants a change and is willing to break that cycle," he said.

Madsen will perform two sets of his original material, some old and some new, at the concert.

His last CD, *Flight of the Seagull*, released in 2006, is about to be followed by his newest release, *Song of the Troubadour*, which includes an accompanying book.

"The book was channeled from me," said Madsen. "I was writing some lyrics and then the lyrics turned into a page. It flowed from there."

Madsen hopes to have *Song of the Troubadour* ready for Friday's concert, and those wanting a sneak peak, can visit his website (www.chrismadsen.com.)

"I've been creating constantly. On my website there's 100 songs people can listen to. We also have a film in the works that I've flown to L.A. for, but that's another story," he said. "My work is constant. It's who I am as an artist and it starts when I wake up 'til I go to bed."

Friday's concert starts at 8 p.m. Refreshments and pizza will be available at cost, with 100 per cent of the profits going to the cause.