

Harpist to perform at Red Rock Center

By **BILL CAHALAN**
Sentinel Staff Writer

FAIRMONT — Harpist Amy Kortuem will perform Sunday at the Red Rock Center for the Arts in Fairmont.

The performance, which will begin at 4 p.m., will feature a variety of music, including Irish and Christmas holiday music.

Kortuem has performed at events, such as the Minnesota Irish Fair in St. Paul and the Rock Bend Folk Festival in St. Peter.

She has played for several of Gustavus Adolphus College's Christmas in Christ Chapel performances in St. Peter. She has also played with the Mankato Symphony Orchestra and with the vocal chamber ensemble Musicorum.

Kortuem also produces, promotes and performs concerts of her own.

The compact disc release concert for her album, "The Harp Her Soul Required," drew 800 listeners and her St. Patrick's Day shows draw large crowds. She also plays for weddings and other

special events.

Her first recording, "The Light and the Lady," was recorded with her concert and Celtic harps at a chapel in Mankato.

The second recording, "The Harp Her Soul Required," is a recording of traditional Irish music on her Celtic harp. Her latest release, "All Hayle to the Days," features carols and songs to drive the cold winter away.

In 2004 she formed her Celtic band after inviting musician friends to play Celtic music with her.

The group's music includes traditional Irish music and Celtic music.

In 1988, Kortuem received a Celtic harp as a gift from a family friend, an Irishman named Jack McGowan. It is a gift that changed her life. The harp has become her passion.

Her performances have had a broad range of audiences from preschool children to outdoor festival-goers, to dignitaries such as former Soviet Union



HOLIDAY MUSIC — Harpist Amy Kortuem will present Christmas holiday music, Irish music and other music at her Sunday performance at the Red Rock Center for the Arts in Fairmont.

government leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

Admission to the Red Rock Center performance will be \$10 at the door. Her CDs will be sold at the Center.