

Arts association looks for members

The membership drive of the Western Plains Arts Association for the 2007-08 season is beginning.

Cheyenne County Association board members Althea Lebow, Helene Landenberger and Lee Nichols, will be contacting current members and potential new members during July.

Among this year's programs is a repeat performance by The Duttons of Branson (by request) in Oakley on March 27.

Other programs and highlights include:

- The season begins on Sunday, Sept. 23, with the Doug Talley Quartet, a critically acclaimed acoustic jazz ensemble that will perform *Cole Porter Songbook* at the Gateway, Oberlin.
- On Oct. 11 and 12 the Wichita Children's Theatre will do *The Little Red Hen* in four area schools and also a public evening performance. This group is a perennial favorite of schools because of their interaction with children.
- Clark Buehling and The SkirtLifters, an old-time string band that specializes in ragtime and square dance music, will do a public performance at Goodland on Oct. 28 and a school show the next day.
- On Nov. 4, the Blue and Gray Brass Brigade, a seven-piece Civil War-era music ensemble, will perform 19th century brass band music which includes many patriotic songs, for the general public at Atwood and a school show the following morning.
- Table for 5, will do a holiday show of refreshingly different and well-polished vocal selections, Nov. 30 at Colby.
- Tuesday, Feb. 5, the season will resume with the Harlem Gospel Singers who share their invigorating and soulful gospel music in a wonderful show for the general public.
- Feb. 18 and 19 the Wichita Children's Theatre will present an American history lesson in the musical, Yankee doodle, in area school and a public performance.
- On Feb. 24, 940 Dance company will perform a show of various musical/dance selections for the public at Oakley and a school show the next morning.

- Michael Cooper, the Masked Marvel, will present a family show using a variety of masks on March 2.

- The Duttons, a talented family of musicians who have their own theatre in Branson, will do a school show and an evening public performance in Oakley on March 27. The show will include vocals, violins and other instruments, yodeling and dancing.

- RiverCity Ramblers, "the best Dixieland jazz that the St. Louis Riverfront has to offer," will perform for the public at Hoxie on April 12 and do a workshop.

- The harp trip of Tabitha Reist Steiner on harp, Dr. James Hall on flute, and Julie Whitton on viola, will present a program of varied selections at Sharon Springs on April 27 and a school show the following morning.
- The final currently scheduled season concert will be on May 4. The Bethany College Handbell Ensemble will do a concert of handbell music.

To be announced later are the Tumbleweed Barbershop Chorus, the First Infantry Division Band and the Navy Band.

Every effort will be made to inform the public of any changes and or additions.

Any business or individual subscribing as a sponsor, patron, sustaining or benefactor will be recognized in the 38th season program booklet and on stage at presentations in their communities. Secure payments may also be made on line this year at www.wpaa.us/join.htm.

St. Francis resident president-elect

Althea Lebow is the Western Plains Arts Association president elect. Besides serving the association she sings, is the choir director at her church and is recognized for taking active leadership roles as a community leader.

Last winter Althea and her husband, Ralph, purchased Video Connection and shortly after, she was named branch manager of the Bankwest of Kansas - St. Francis. She organized and leads the St. Francis Weight Watchers group and in May opened Althea's Scrap N Chat, holding scrap camps and classes.



PRE-JULY 4TH CELEBRATION: Large crowds attended the Hilltop Neighborhood Red, White & Blue Celebration. (clockwise from left) Donna Northrup can't pass up the fresh corn at the Hilltop General Store produce tent sale; Lauren Bandel and Laura Brunk organize fireworks at the Brunk Brats Fireworks; Susan Roelfs volunteered at the Relay for Life food sale.

Herald staff photos by Betty Jean Winston



Welcome to Saint Francis Orthopedic Surgeon Mekki Saba, M.D., F.R.C.S.

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WANTED Bird City Times Associate-Editor

Looking for an energetic person, living in the Bird City area. The applicant must have some computer, writing and some photography skills, get along well with customers, be able to cover meetings, school activities and other happenings within the communities of Bird City and McDonald.

To apply or for more information, contact Casey McCormick or Karen Krien at the St. Francis Herald, 785-332-3162 or stop by the office at 310 W. Washington, St. Francis.

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