

Music concert date set

The St. Francis Community High School Advanced Music students are preparing for their annual spring presentation on April 10. This year's class will again be performing a rock concert. "Coming Together" will begin at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 10, in the high school auditorium.

Members of the rock band are Wyatt Landenberger - guitar, Lane Hoffman - bass, Jacob Butler - drums, Payton Beims - piano, and Bailey Merklin, Mariah Beikman, Ashlee Orth, Dallas Reed, Sydney Sundstrom, Hannah Wolff, and Tony Sipse - vocals. They are directed by Debbie Fiala.

In addition to lots of rock music (current hits as well as classic rock), concert-goers will be treated to a dessert buffet prepared by the Culinary Arts class at the conclusion of the hour-long concert.

Tickets may be purchased at the door. See ad for more information.



ADVANCED MUSIC students practice for the upcoming high school music concert, "Coming Together." Herald staff photo by Douglas Sloper

City council discusses theater wages

By Amanda Miller
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Members of the city's Theater Board and the St. Francis City Council agreed last Monday that the board would keep in touch with the council and clear any future pay increases with it so the council can keep track of the theater budget.

Robert Grace and Brent Rueb represented the Theater Board at the meeting, held at City Hall. At the last meeting, council members noted that the board had given wage increases and bonuses without council approval and, in fact, the board was over budget. The council asked that a board member come to the next meeting.

Mayor Scott Schultz told the theater representatives he wanted to make sure everyone is on the same page. He said that the council would like to have the board suggest wage increases, but it needs to approve them so the theater does not get into a budget problem.

Mr. Grace said it had been a year and a half since the theater employees had any increase in wages, so the board had wanted to catch up. Although expenses have increased 20 percent, he added, income has gone up 28 percent.

He said board members were frustrated that the auditors would have a problem with the theater being over budget, and asked the council if they could explain it.

City Attorney Mike Day told the men he thought there has not been enough communication between the board and the city. Whether the theater is making money or not, he said, but by state law, it has to be budgeted before it can be spent. Everyone is pleased with how well the theater is doing, he added, but the council should have the final

authority on wages. He then asked if the board could provide the city with financials.

Mr. Grace replied that the financials come from the city, so they should be available to the council. He said the board has no problem going to the council to get wages approved.

The board members and the council agreed that someone from the theater should come to city meetings once every three months to give a report.

Motorcycle Museum

Mr. Rueb said he was also representing of Yost Ford. In the past, he said, Yost has had a Ford "Drive 4 UR School" test-drive event. Ford also has a "Drive 4 UR Community" test drive that raises money for a chosen nonprofit agency. He said he had applied to Ford to hold one during the annual Cheyenne County Cruisers Car Show, and had been approved.

For every test drive someone takes, he said, Ford will donate \$25, up to a total of \$6,000, to the proposed motorcycle museum. Mayor Schultz expressed appreciation, adding that things are moving along on getting the museum going.

Veterans Art Studio

Keary Carman said he wanted to clarify his plans for the old Assembly of God church building and ask for a business incentive for the plan. The city offers a credit on utility bills for new businesses, based on the number of employees they hire. The credit can be up to \$100 per month for six months for a new small business with one to two full time workers.

Mr. Carman said that he originally thought about turning the building into a treatment center for veterans with moderate post traumatic stress disorder, but decided that could be a liability for the community.

Since then, he said, he has decided to turn the building into an art studio to showcase pieces drawn and written by veterans. Artwork would come from veterans from all over the country, he said.

Mr. Carman said he has been working with the Quincy Art Gallery, and the first showing will be held on Memorial Day. The show, "What is War?," asks veterans to answer the question with art. The art will be hung in the Quincy Gallery, with any excess in the old church at Second and Benton.

The council members said that they would get a business variance application for Mr. Carman to take to the neighbors, and asked him to return the variance so that they could consider a business incentive.

Administrative Reports

City Superintendent J.R. Landenberger was at the Kansas Rural Water Association meeting, so was not at the council meeting to give report.

Mr. Day passed out a draft of a digital sign policy to council members that he wrote. They are to take the policy home, review it and make comments at the next meeting so it can be voted on then.

City Clerk Glori Milne reported that Goodwill Industries out of Denver wants to know if it can park a collection truck someplace in St. Francis. Mayor Schultz said that they could park it by the recycling center.

Council Comments

Councilman Dale Weeks said he had talked with Fire Chief George Harper about working on a grant to replace two sets of bunker gear and radios for the fire department. The city's share would be about \$2,000. Council members agreed that the money was in the budget, so it would

not be a problem.

Councilman Roger Jensen said he had toured the Keller Pond. He spoke with Mr. Landenberger, Tom Keller and Terry Rieger, with Cheyenne County Wildlife, about recommendations for this year.

His said the area does not need any trees right now. It has plenty of good cedar trees, and there is no place he would plant trees right now. He said Mr. Keller agreed, but that he would like to see a landscape architect look at the area.

Mr. Jensen recommended that the council work on a walk-in gate at the southwest corner, do repairs to the south end of the bridge and find someone to keep the area on the east side of the pond mowed.

Mr. Day also suggested that, this year, they get a sign honoring Ed and Rachel Keller.

Mr. Jensen said he has been approached about allowing chickens in town by several people. He asked the other members their opinions on changing the ordinance. The council asked Mrs. Milne to check with nearby cities and see if others allow any chickens, and, if so, how many.

Councilman Bruce Swihart said they are interviewing a person for pool manager. Once a manager has been hired, he said, they will begin interviewing lifeguards. He asked if there was something the city could do to honor the late Jack Weinstein for receiving the Medal of Honor. Mayor Schultz said he would contact his wife, Nancy Weinstein, to see if she would like something done.

Next meeting

The next council meeting will be at 7:30 p.m. Monday at City Hall. All meetings are open, and the public is encouraged to attend.

Book Review

Storm Front
By John Sandford

In Israel, a man clutching a backpack searches desperately for a boat. In Minnesota, Virgil Flowers gets a message from Lucas Davenport: You're about to get a visitor. It's an Israeli investigator, and she's chasing a man who's smuggled out an extraordinary relic - an ancient inscribed stone revealing startling details about the man known as King Solomon.

Wait a minute, laughs Virgil. Is this one of those mystical movie-plot kind of deals? The secret artifact, the blockbuster revelation, the teams of murderous bad guys? Should I be boning up on my Bible verses? Hel looks at he investigator She's not laughing.

As it turns out, there are very bad men chasin therelic, and they don't care who's in the way or what they have to do to get it. "They're crazies," she says.

"Like what kind of crazies?"

Book review from the St. Francis Public Library

Music group to sing in Oakley on April 6

The Balyeats, from Montana, are an award winning combination of country, gospel, and bluegrass music with a message of inspiration and hope. They have a warm, versatile style of family fun as they share their musical presentation that includes lots of singing and 13 instruments.

Bob and Nancy, with their daughters MaryAnna, Rose, Charis, Charity, and Jeremiah and Hillary Roby, make up this energetic group that delivers talent and will have you clapping hands and sitting on the edge of your seat.

The Balyeats were awarded International Bluegrass Artist of the Year in 2010, as well as Best Family Gospel Album of the Year by National Traditional Country Music Association. The girls brought home Acapella Artist of the Year in 2013, and that same year Nancy, aka Mom, was honored by receiving Psalmist of the Year in 2013 by Country Gospel Music Association in Branson. The Balyeats' performance will take place on Sunday, April 6, at 3 p.m. in the Oakley High School auditorium. Admission is with season ticket or at the door.

Take the wheel. Help the cause.

Go Further

Take a free test-drive and Ford Motor Company will donate up to \$6,000 to the cause.

The more people who drive, the more that will be earned.

Saturday, May 10
during the
Cheyenne County Cruiser Car Show
8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Main Street (Washington Street) St. Francis
In front of the
Cheyenne County Courthouse

Donations will be directed to the Non-Profit Motorcycle Museum Fund Raiser Organization

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Thank You

We want to thank the communities of Bird City and St. Francis for their support and prayers for our family during Brad's surgery and recovery. Special thanks to Susie Walz for her dedication she showed to Brad as she dressed his wounds. To the Bird City Wesleyan Church-our family for their prayers and support. To the United Methodist Church of Bird City for helping us meet our needs. To Cheyenne County Clinic staff in Bird City and St. Francis. To Linda Ketzner, Brad's sister who would stop by and visit. And to the Bird City residents and anonymous friends. We could not have made it through without all of you. God Bless, Brad and Linda Schneider, Ivan and Joseph.

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6± ACRES WITH HOME, SHOP & HIGHWAY 36 FRONTAGE: Nice 4-bedroom, 2-bath modular home with 1,904 sq. ft. living space. Detached 24'x40' heated garage/shop. Perfect for home and/or business location on oil. Just east of St. Francis.

PRICE REDUCED ON 3-BEDROOM HOME: 1,344 sq. ft. of living space with newer windows, roof and insulation. New central heat and AC. Carport & sprinklers. 123 E. First, St. Francis.

ATTRACTIVE BUNGALOW: Updated 1,320 sq. ft. home with two bedrooms, hardwood floors and remodeled kitchen with appliances. Newly painted, with partial basement, new backyard fence, and 2-car garage. 222 W. Third, Bird City.

"If given the opportunity, I guarantee I'll work hard for you!" —Rhonda Born

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