

Talent sought for Flatlander contest

By Sharon Corcoran

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Whether you play guitar or flute or sing or make people laugh, get ready to get up on stage and compete for \$100 during the annual Flatlander Fall Festival later this month.

Area performers have a chance to play for a crowd and compete for cash prizes during the festival's talent contest, organized in three age categories: pre-teen (ages 6-12), teen (13-19) and adult (20 and up).

The contest has been held in Burlington the last couple of years, said Richard Johnson, owner of Madd Hatter's Music Emporium here and a member of the Flatlander committee. Johnson said he did the sound and helped outline the event there, and when Burlington decided not to have one this year, he arranged to add it to the Flatlander schedule.



It was successful in Burlington, he said; it went really well and was a great time, and a lot of talent came out. Anyone who can sing, tap dance or is a comedian should sign up for the show, he said. Charlie Baker of Goodland won the adult division the second year the contest was in Burlington.

Each act will be allowed 15 minutes to perform between noon and 4 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 29, at the grandstand at 11th and Main. They will be evaluated by a panel of three judges on performance, originality and crowd response and interaction.

Each area will be graded on scale of 1-10, with scores entered by a secret ballot. Those will be tabu-

lated at the end of each performance, then compiled at the end of each category to determine first, second and third place.

Winners will be announced and prizes awarded Sunday, Sept. 30, at the Flatlander Picnic in the Park, Johnson said. Prizes will be \$100 for first, \$50 for second and \$25 for third in each category.

All three first-place winners will perform at the picnic before the headliner, the Pieces of Eight band. Johnson said he is the lead guitarist for the band, which includes Andrew Melia on drums and vocals, Howard Culver on bass and vocals and Heather Hays as the lead singer.

There will be hot-dog and ham-

burger meals for \$1, Johnson said, and vendors will be selling crafts in the park.

Madd Hatter's will provide the public address system, electric piano, microphones, amplifiers and stage. Contestants need to bring any other instrument or equipment they need.

Applications are available at Madd Hatter's, 120 W. 11th, and KLOE/KKCI/KWGB Radio, both in Goodland; the Feed Bunk, 1847 Rose Ave., Burlington; and Colby Comfort Inn, 2225 S. Range.

Applicants must pay a \$25 entry fee, which covers an individual or a band. Deadline is Thursday, Sept. 20. Call Johnson at 890-3510.

Richard Johnson, owner of Madd Hatter's Music Emporium, is taking applications for talent show contestants for the Flatlander Fall Festival's new event. Johnson decided to bring the contest to Goodland after Burlington decided not to have one this year.

Photo by Sharon Corcoran/The Goodland Star-News

Citizen asks city to plant more trees

A former tree board chairman asked the Goodland City Commission on Tuesday to encourage homeowners to plant more trees.

The commissioners agreed it would be good to see more trees, saying that the city needs to keep planting trees to qualify as a Tree City U.S.A.

Lawrence Tedford, who served as chairman for 20 years, told the commission while he was on the tree board they planted more than 500 trees. He said the other members of the board back then were Dale Ellison, Lewis Nowak, Bill Becker and Rudy Gemmer.

Tedford asked about providing an incentive such as a rebate to the homeowner for planting a tree.

"I am for the beautification of Goodland, and am here to urge you to put it in the budget to plant trees," Tedford said. "There are lots of places where you can plant trees. I can show anyone who is interested where those places are.

"We used to have a meeting every month, and we would look around after the meeting for place to plant trees. Some of us paid for

those trees just to get them planted."

Tedford said he had taken City Manager Wayne Hill around when he came to town to show him the trees. He asked if there was money in the budget for tree planting.

"Do we know what kind of plan there is?" City Commissioner Annette Fairbanks asked.

City Commissioner Josh Dechant said Christie Rasure, tree board chairman, had suggested something like the rebate or incentive program during the city budget workshop. Hill said the commission did not adopt any plan at that time.

Fairbanks asked if the city was replacing trees on the public land.

Rich Simon, public works director, said the city replaced trees when they go bad, and thought about a dozen have been planted this year.

Mayor Rick Billinger said he thought the city had to plant about 25 trees a year to keep the Tree City U.S.A. designation.

The mayor thanked Tedford for this comments and said the city would keep his idea in mind.

Workers throw sand on new asphalt



Maintenance workers for the Kansas Department of Transportation were throwing sand on top of new strips of asphalt on Wednesday where the travel lanes had been milled off to smooth

the lanes. The section of highway from the intersection south to I-70 is slated to be replaced over the next few years through an improvement program. Photo by Tom Betz/The Goodland Star-News

Cheyenne County to move emergency call system to courthouse

By Karen Krien

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The Cheyenne County commissioners and St. Francis City Council met Friday to discuss plans for the new enhanced 911 system emergency call system, which will be moving from the city power plant to the courthouse.

Mayor Scott Schultz said the council had come to make sure the commissioners knew it supported the upgrade. Everyone agreed that communication about the project

between the cities and county is important.

The 911 office will be moved Jan. 1 from the St. Francis power plant to the old sheriff's office in courthouse.

The new equipment is supposed to be coming sometime in October, said Carol Gamblin, who will head the 911 department, and it should be up and ready in December. This would give time for testing before the Jan. 1 starting date, he said.

The enhanced features of the new 911 system will not be implemented until March 15.

The commissioners said Jim

O'Loughlin from Allied Information Solutions, the company contracted to set up the equipment and make sure it is working, will be in St. Francis to attend a commissioners' meeting in September.

The city council has agreed to pay wages and benefits for dispatchers who will be coming over to the new system until the end of December. Commission Chairman Andy Beikman said the county will then take over the wages and benefits.

Councilwoman Carla Lampe asked about setting up a committee comprising of council members from both cities, a commissioner, a law enforcement officer and the

head of the 911 system to run the system. This seemed agreeable, as there would be someone to report back to the different entities.

They talked about the 911 system being an entity separate from the commissioners. Mr. Beikman said that in order for that to happen, it needs to have its own board with part of the members being law enforcement, firemen and emergency medical service personnel. The board will need to be organized by Jan. 1, he said.

They discussed the 911 dispatchers, how they would be trained and

how many will be employed. They said there is a two-week class in Salina which Gamblin said is excellent training for those who have never been a dispatcher.

She said Steve Nolan and Jim Rarick, city employees who have indicated they are going to move with the new system, have already experienced some of the cases they will run into but still suggested they needed some training.

Four to five full-time employees were recommended, with two part-time dispatchers. City Attorney Mike Day said City Manager J.R.

Landenberger also has training in this field and would be willing to help if and when needed.

"I encourage you to use him if needed," he said. "This is important for all of the county and he may be able to point out some things needed."

Commissioners present were Mr. Beikman, Ernie Ketzner and Ray Lee, and council members were Natalie Knodel, Mrs. Lampe, Mr. Schultz and Dale Weeks. Mrs. Gamblin and Craig Van Allen, acting sheriff, also were there.

corrections

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<p>Sept. 7 - 13 The Bourne Ultimatum PG-13: Violence; intense sequences of action.</p>	<p>Bring this AD to the theatre for \$1 OFF on a large popcorn & 2 med. drinks EXP. 12/31/07</p>	<p>Nightly 7:00 Sunday Matinee - 1:30 Movie Bucks Make Great Gifts! www.goodlandnet.com/movies</p>
<p>Sherman 1203 Main - Phone 899-6103</p>		

Sherman County Household Hazardous Waste Collection

Saturday, September 8, 2007
7 a.m. to 11 a.m. Mountain time
HHW Facility
1820 Cherry Street, Goodland, Kansas

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