

# **Strand Theatre Shelbyville, Inc.**

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## **Strand Theatre Weekly Email: May 31, 2012**

Written by David on May, 31 2012

The Strand has been a flurry of activity. Several things have happened this past few weeks.

First off the Strand would like to thank Mayor Tom DeBaun and the Shelbyville City Common Council for EDIT funding again this year. The Strand has always strived to be a solid downtown presence while accomplishing our mission for the arts. We have done our business out in front of everyone. For our EDIT hearing we provided the Council with a booklet of all our Strand Weekly Emails for the past year. As you who read these know, we don't hide anything. Anyone who asks us a question gets a straight and honest answer. This openness was very important as we started this project. The further along we go, the more important it is. The Council and Mayor have helped the Strand remain strong so that we can provide a 100% volunteer performing arts center for our community. There are absolutely NO salaries or expenses that are paid to volunteers or board members. 100% of our funds go directly into the Strand and our programming. Thank you City of Shelbyville!

We have had successes and failures this past few weeks. We will talk about both. Unfortunately there have been failures. The Strand is 96 years old. Sometimes it just rebels against us. So it is this week. The Strand runs on old heating and A/C equipment (warning, tech talk ahead). We recently noticed that the air conditioning was not keeping up with demand. This meant a trip to the roof where the units are located. We discovered that one of our four units was not running. Bob S. told us not to worry, his first thought was "it might be out of Freon and be off on the hi/low pressure cutoff switches, which are common on remote units, such as ours are." A check with the pressure gauges confirmed that there was plenty of Freon. So, next he went into the electrical end of things. There were two blown fuses. In the world of A/C this is a bad omen. We replaced the fuses, and applied power. Only the fan came on - no compressor. A check was made of the continuity of the three motor windings in the compressor. To our dismay we discovered that all three windings are open (burned out). This compressor cannot be repaired (being a sealed unit), and must, therefore be replaced. According to Bob this will not be an inexpensive repair (or without the double negative - expensive!). A job like this is something we cannot accomplish on our own, so we are soliciting outside help and will get things back and running soon. Our theatre can just about keep up without the 25% capacity that was lost. If we have a hot night, it will get a little warm.

Next is the continuing saga with our flashing lights on the marquee. It seems as though it is more difficult than we expected (so what else is new). Steve Dennis, our electrician and guru of such thing, sent us on an assignment. Find relays that can handle the load. This was a difficult task until the St. Joe Fair came to town. We saw all those rides with flashing lights..hmm, maybe a midway supplier could help. We did a quick check and found what we were looking for. We are upgrading to a solid state relay that is rated for 25 amps. Solid state means no moving parts, just what we need. Our marquee requires four of these relays. The best part is they are inexpensive compared to all the other options. This is a highly specialized item and we are fortunate to be able to find it. Soon we will be back in business with our lights!

Now for the successes. Our events of the past few weeks have been fun and entertaining. Here is a quick rundown:

On May 12th we hosted the Shelby County Drug Free Coalition Youth Council for their annual fundraiser / talent contest. The kids did a great job and we had some outstanding performers. It was a good night for a good cause.

On May 13th we hosted Scott Long doing a comedy show. His eponymous show (thank you Andrea), was filled with laughter and a good time by all. This was brought to our theatre by our good friend and comedian Todd McComas. For those of you who were there, you know how funny it was!

On May 17th over 300 patrons came to hear the Shelbyville Middle School Jazz Bands and Choir. The evening started with the 6th grade Jazz Band followed by the Jazz Choir. The night finished with the 7th & 8th grade Jazz Band. It was a great time and the students sounded great.

On May 19th the rock band Cosmos performed "Music from the other side." This concert featured music that is not frequently performed. It was top flight and included music that even our sound engineer Ron B. wasn't familiar with! Thank you to Laura and all the great musicians for sharing your talent.

On May 20th the Shelby County Builders Association presented the movie "Mr. Blandings Builds his Dream Home." This 1948 Cary Grant / Myrna Loy classic was funny and everyone had a great time.

On May 21st & 22nd the Shelby County Players held their auditions for Damn Yankees. According to the director Cindy Leahy: "We still need 4 men. 2 that can sing and dance and 2 that are cameo speaking parts. If you know anyone who has spare time this summer - send them our way." Cindy can be contacted at cleahy@shelbycountyplayers.com

On May 26th Friday Night Frights was presented.

On May 30th Major Hospital Pediatrics presented a film and lecture. This was a fundraiser for the Ride Across America team "Docs & Jocks." They are riding to raise awareness for the dangers of childhood obesity. It was an interesting and informing event.

That brings us to today. We have lots on tap in the coming weeks. We start this weekend with a Movie Premiere. "The Last Ride" is the story of Hank Williams' last days. It is a new film featuring Fred Dalton Thompson and Kaley Cuoco. The movie is presented Friday and Saturday night at 7:30pm. There will be a matinee on Sunday starting at 2:00pm.

Shelby Idol begins next week as well as a host of other things. Like always, we are trying to bring a wide variety of entertainment and performances to our community. The support we get each and every day is greatly appreciated. We want you to be the expert on the Strand and spread the good news about what we have been able to accomplish. A local performing arts center is many times a dream for a community. The Strand has looked inside our County and found that we have a talented and generous community. Through the efforts of many volunteers and performers our performing arts center is a reality! Hope to see you at the Strand!

The Last Ride  
The Story of Hank Williams  
Friday June 1, 2012 7:30pm  
Saturday June 2, 2012 7:30pm  
Sunday June 3, 2012 2:00pm

Shelby Idol  
Saturday June 9, 2012  
Saturday June 16, 2012  
Saturday June 30, 2012

Baggy Bottom Boys  
Bluegrass and Country Music  
Saturday June 23, 2012

**Images on this post:**

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