

# Strand Theatre Shelbyville, Inc.

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*Articles prior to December 5, 2018*

## Strand Theatre Weekly Email: July 6, 2012

Written by David on July, 6 2012

The Strand has been busy this week. While our next performance isn't until the 14th, our volunteers have been busy working on all sorts of things. First on the list is our Air Conditioning. Last week we were foolish enough to believe everything was fixed. A trip to the roof on Friday night proved otherwise. (warning, serious tech talk ahead). Our brand new compressor was under tremendous stress with the high heat load. Our old 1970's era units have a high pressure regulation of 300psi. The newer compressor would rather only see 250psi on the high side. The new unit had a crimped transition between two line sizes. This transition joint ruptured causing the Freon, oil and life to be drained from this new compressor. Jimmy Hicks tried valiantly to get it ready for our anticipated sell-out on Saturday night. It couldn't be repaired that quickly.

We headed into the weekend with 100°+ degree heat, large crowds and 25% less cooling capacity. Shelby Idol had 357 in attendance. We consider anything above 350 a sell-out. It got warm. We started off with an empty theatre at 68° and finished the evening at 80°. The talent was outstanding and all things considered it wasn't that bad.

On Sunday we had the Shelby County Fair Baby Contest. This was to start at 2:00pm, as in the same 2:00pm that is the hottest part of the day! The Fair organizers told us to expect around 250. That would be a great amount and our AC would do OK. They were wrong. We had our maximum capacity of 450! With over 70 babies entered, it proved to be a popular event. The theatre was downright hot. We hated that, but there was only so much we could do. Everyone did fine and we appreciate their understanding. When we started our prime objectives was audience safety and audience comfort. For the first time, we really failed on the comfort side of things. Our unit is going to be fixed next week. Bob S., the keeper of the thermostat key, has informed us we will keep the theatre cool so that we start with the best advantage should the temperature remain hot until then. One way or the other we are going to make sure it is cool! We want to congratulate the Shelby County Fair Association for a successful baby contest. We enjoyed having them and honored to be able to donate our theatre for their use in this very difficult year in fair history. We look forward to working with the Fair Board in the future.

Our ghost light on stage allowed the theatre gremlins to play with not only the AC, but also our new (to us) beverage cooler. The cooler made a return trip to the refrigerator hospital. We found out the unit is working fine. We had it mounted in a place that didn't have enough air flow and the compressor was turning itself off. We have modified the space and that should be fixed too. 38° here we come to keep our water bottles cold!

The Strand is placing a sign in back of the theatre. This sign, which was donated by the former Shelby County Bank, was completely rebuilt and a new insert was expertly provided by Stage Door Graphics. We have a permit to hang the sign, but we need a variance to light the sign. We are working on that process and application. Until then we have the sign lit in our lobby. Take a look as your travel by the Strand. It is nice!

The Strand board is also making plans to finish our offices on the second floor. Since we opened, the Shelby County Players have been given one of the offices to store their costumes. We were informed last week that they will be moving out. This will allow us to renovate all the spaces, where we had previously planned to leave that office along. We will put the word out for volunteers as we get back into construction mode. It will be nice to see the finished spaces and the other chandeliers hanging from the north and south offices. If you want to help, please let us know.

Our stage door replacement has been set in motion. After receiving the very generous grant from the Blue River Foundation that helped offset the cost, Jim Marshall of R.D. Marshall, Inc. placed the materials on order and working on the schedule for installation. This is a safety item that needed professional installation, hence why we are not doing it ourselves. As you can imagine, every measurement is different and the door is a custom size. When done it will be a tremendous improvement to the Strand.

There are still plenty of tickets available for the Chick McGee Comedy show at the Strand. You may purchase them at Mickey's T-Mart or online at [www.brownpapertickets.com/event/252543](http://www.brownpapertickets.com/event/252543) We look forward to a funny evening. We hope you can come enjoy top flight comedy at the Strand on Saturday July 14, 2012. The show starts at 8:00pm.

The Shelby County Public Library will be hosting an event on July 27th with Daniel Lusk Magic. He has performed at the Strand in the past and is an excellent magician. We will send more details later on this fun show.

The Shelby County Players' production of Damn Yankees is in rehearsals for their early August performance at the Strand. We are hoping Lola gets what she wants?the Strand wants a full house to see the fun and entertaining show! Hopefully we'll be together. (OK, we know we are making lame references. If you don't get it, all the more reason to come to Damn Yankees!) We look forward to it.

Thank you to all the audience members that came to the Strand last weekend for outstanding events. It was a pleasure having everyone at the Strand. We have lots of work to do this week to get ready, but we will be OK for curtains up at 8:00pm on Saturday.

Thank you for your support. The Strand is proud to be part of our community. While we are dark this weekend, please visit the Shelby County Fair and tell them the Strand sent you!

**Images on this post:**

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