

STC thespians host new theater camp



PHOTO BY JONATHAN MEYER

The dozen performers at the Wieting Theater Camp acted out a Reader's Theater titled "Box."

JONATHAN MEYER | CORRESPONDENT

On Saturday, April 15, a dozen actors gathered on the stage of the little theater and put on 45 minutes of entertainment, free to the public, as part of a new fundraiser and recruiting initiative by STC's Thespian Troupe #1038.

Campers paid \$40 and signed up for a week of theater education, taught by some of South Tama High School's biggest stars. The camp was held over the course of five days, with campers putting together a 10-minute musical theater medley with hit songs from some of Broadway's most popular musicals along with a few more unknown selections, including "Supercalifragilisticexpialidocious" from Mary Poppins, "Seasons of Love" from Rent and "Into the Woods" from the show of the same name. The group of campers also put together a reader's theater piece titled "Box."

The idea for the camp was brought forward by senior Libby Albright. Albright, who has served in various statewide leadership roles, both as a State Thespian Officer and State Student Council Officer, talked about the importance of arts education in schools.

"It's a personal growth opportunity as much as it is singing and dancing. We talked a lot through the week about the different emotions behind the various songs," she said. "In my experience in the arts, creating something bigger than yourself and doing it with other people while being a part of art that is meaningful is some of the most important education we can give students."

Noticing the lack of arts activities for middle schoolers outside of band and choir, she felt a camp would be a

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Tama Council talks crosswalks, ambulances

MICHAEL D. DAVIS | CORRESPONDENT

One of the main concerns at Monday night's Tama City Council meeting was safety. The Tama-Toledo Visioning Group discussed with council members the possibility of putting in a crosswalk for the South Tama County High School.

The proposed crosswalk would cross the four lane highway east to west at either 16th or 17th Street. A small boy was at the meeting to share his thoughts about the harrowing cross over the highway.

The Iowa DOT did a study on the area and the placement of the possible crosswalk. The Council approved the Visioning Group to take the next step in the process for the crosswalk, grant writing.

June 27-29 were decided as dates for city cleanup. Miguel Guzman met with the council to talk about the possibility of buying a downtown property. The discussion was tabled until a later meeting so that all the council members could become more knowledgeable on the subject.

Hannah Snodgrass was approved to become an EMS volunteer.

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WEEKEND FORECAST:

Saturday: PARTLY SUNNY/
BLUSTERY High: 41 / Low: 30



Sunday: MOSTLY SUNNY/
BREEZY High: 43 / Low: 28

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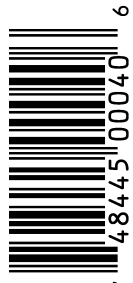
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Toledo officer under investigation over allegations of excessive force during traffic stop



CONTRIBUTED IMAGES

Screenshots from the body camera footage of a March 30 traffic stop just west of Toledo depict the interaction between Shyla Wolf and Toledo Police Department Sgt. Kyle Howe. Wolf is considering a lawsuit, and Howe is currently on paid leave while an independent third party investigates allegations of excessive force.

MICHAEL D. DAVIS
CORRESPONDENT

A traffic stop on March 30 just west of Toledo has resulted in an independent investigation and the officer involved being placed on paid leave over allegations of excessive force.

Thirty-one-year-old Shyla Wolf was driving her three kids out of town on Highway 30 to a lacrosse game in which her son was to participate when Toledo Police Sergeant Kyle Howe pulled her vehicle over.

During the traffic stop,

Howe approached the driver's side door and spoke to Wolf through the window (body camera footage of the incident has been released to media outlets). Howe informed Wolf that she was driving with a barred license, and in response, she expressed confusion as she believed her driver's license to simply be restricted, which allows an individual to drive to certain places like work or their child's school. A barred license, on the other hand, does not allow a person to drive anywhere.

Wolf's attention then quickly turned to her three children in the car with her.

"I need somebody to get my kids," she said.

Howe initially allowed her to do so with the one provision that she exited the vehicle. Standing between Howe's Toledo Police vehicle and the back end of Shyla's car, Wolf attempted for the second time to call someone to take care of her children.

As the phone rang, Shyla asked Officer Howe,

"Why do you harass me?"

Howe then reached forward, grabbed Wolf's arm and shoved her forcefully onto the hood of the police cruiser after remarking, "Okay, you're done."

Little is shown on the body cam footage for the next few moments after Howe's body camera fell off of his vest and landed in some brush, but the audio is still captured for the minute plus that the body cam lays on the ground.

OFFICER | P 3

RAGBRAI groovin'

Community meeting held in Toledo

MICHAEL D. DAVIS
CORRESPONDENT

The RAGBRAI community meeting went off without a hitch last Thursday, April 13, except for the occasional problem with the Zoom feed of the beverage man.

The '70s will be the vibe of July as RAGBRAI celebrates its 50th year, with a stop in town. Volunteers, if not adorning the official RAGBRAI T-shirt, will be encouraged to break out their funkier, most freaky deaky threads, or else they may get the ol' hairy eyeball. The throwback feel will keep Tama-Toledo copacetic as those psychedelic cyclists boogie on into town.

A flurry of subjects were discussed during the two hour long meeting; one was volunteers. The Toledo Area Chamber of Commerce made it known that volunteers are needed more than a squirrel needs nuts.

Around 900 locals are wanted to help out for the July 27 RAGBRAI over-



PHOTO BY MICHAEL D. DAVIS

Tama County Economic Development Executive Director Katherine Ollendieck addressed the crowd at the Reing Center in Toledo during a community meeting about RAGBRAI last Thursday night.

night stay, and nearly 300 volunteers are needed for the beer tent alone. Anyone who wishes to enlist in the aid brigade can simply go to the Tama-Toledo RAGBRAI website, where there is a diverse allotment of positions and time slots open. Whether you would want to run ice for the beer tent or sit on a public bus to answer questions and give directions, there are plenty of positions available.

Another option locals have to help out is by becoming a host home. With the influx of people this July, the Chamber of Commerce is seeking anyone with a yard willing to have a tent pitched in it. Providing access to a bathroom or a shower is up to the owner of the host home.

You can sign up to house on your property any number of cyclists that you see fit. Sign up early and a

registered RAGBRAI rider will be assigned to your location.

It is being planned for an extra 30 law enforcement officers to be brought in for the day. As well, four first aid tents and six transport units will be prepared for the day.

For public transit, buses will travel on four different

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