



Cassie and The Bobs perform two shows honoring the memory and music of the legendary Patsy Cline at Yankton's Dakota Theatre Aug. 29. The shows are sponsored by the Corps of Discovery Welcome Center. (Courtesy photo)

CDWC Offers A Musical Trip

Back In Time

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The Corps of Discovery Welcome Center is hosting a fundraising concert featuring Cassie & the Bobs and its tribute to Patsy Cline.

The band was in Yankton in 2012 for the center. Now, by popular demand, the Welcome Center's volunteers have decided to bring them back for an encore.

"It was successful in 2012 and we have had people ask to have them back, so we thought we would," said Corps of Discovery Welcome Center Director Minette Paltz.

The shows will be held at the historic Dakota Theatre on Aug. 29. The band will have a matinee concert at 2 p.m. and an evening performance at 7 p.m.

Transport yourself back to that early '60s Nashville sound with all of Patsy Cline's greatest hits. Cassie & the Bobs have translated their love of Cline into a touring tribute band.

The idea for their tribute came from a theatrical production called "Always Patsy Cline" in their hometown of Barrett, Minnesota.

"A friend of mine and I were asked to be in the band for the musical," said Cassie and the Bobs' drummer Tony Ray.

Ray gathered several other people for the production and ended up with a seven-piece band. Lead singer Cassie Wiesner, who was a former bandmate of Ray, was cast for the role of Patsy Cline.

Both the band and Cassie fell in love with Cline's music. When the production ended, many members wanted to keep it going.

"We did the show and then we said, 'That was fun; now what do we do?'" Ray said. "Then we decided to learn some other Patsy Cline songs and take it on the road as a concert."

With the loss of a fiddle player and the addition of a second guitar player, the

band has toured around for the past six years. Cassie and the Bobs focus around Minnesota and the Dakotas.

"We were in Yankton a few years ago and we had a good time," Ray said. "They asked us back and we were happy to do it."

The band doesn't tour as much as it used to, due to commitments from other bands, but members still get together every few months to do a show here and there.

Now they will be returning to Yankton to help a worthy cause.

The Corps of Discovery Welcome Center offers historic artifacts and information about the Missouri River. It offers the largest selection of locally made arts and crafts in the area available for sale. More than 6,500 people visit the center each year from every state in the United States, and from around the world.

"The depressed economy has affected tourism in our area," Paltz said. "Our

memberships are also down, and we really rely on them to keep us going on a day-to-day basis."

This is the only Nebraska welcome center not on the interstate system and is not state run or government funded, unlike many of the other welcome centers in Nebraska. In order to continue their mission, the center needs to raise funds for regular operating expenses.

"We really hope to fill the theatre because it's a really good cause," Ray said.

"Right now, the ticket sales will be used for continued operation, though we have a couple of projects in mind that we would like to try," Paltz said. "We will also

be using some of the money to continue to purchase new items for resale in our gift shop."

The band ensures a performance rich in authenticity. Inspired by the music they love, Cassie and the Bobs' performance will consist of Cline favorites like "Crazy," "Walking after Midnight," "I Fall to Pieces," and many more. The band will also feature a few other decade-correct songs during Cassie's costume changes.

"I like to say that if you close your eyes, you'll think you're back in 1962 at a Patsy Cline concert," Ray said.

Adding to the Midwestern feel of the area, the band

loves the reaction of audience members who lived through these decades and appreciate the tribute.

"We get a lot of people that come up to us and say, 'Hey, I saw Patsy Cline live back in 1958 and it really brings back some good memories,'" Ray said. "It will allow audience members to go back in time and relive some really great music."

Tickets for Cassie & the Bobs are available at the Welcome Center, just south of Yankton on Highway 81 or by calling Director Minette Paltz at 402-667-6557.

Follow @alwooc01 on Twitter.

Craft Night Set For Adults Set For Library

The Yankton Community Library's first fall craft night for adults is Tuesday, Sept. 8, at 6 p.m. If you want to mark your calendars for future classes, set aside the second Tuesday of September through November for craft night. The crafty librarians have already picked the items to make for each month and are anxious to get started.

In September, participants will make a deco mesh pumpkin door wreath. If you have fall embellishments such as ribbon or flowers in your craft supplies and want to use them on your wreath, please bring them. If not, the library will provide added decorations.

Please note that we need to know in advance how much mesh to purchase. Therefore, the registration for the September class closes on Tuesday, Aug. 25. As in the past, in order to register for the class, you must pay the fee to be added to the roster. Class size is limited to 15.

Because these classes are so popular and participants use the same tools most class nights, we are suggesting that you create your personal crafter's tool kit and bring it with you. Items in your kit could include a glue gun, an extension cord, fabric scissors, non-fabric scissors, wire cutters, a small ruler, rotary cutter and basic sewing supplies such as needles, thimble, etc.

For more information, please contact the library at 668-5275 and speak with Joyce Brunken or Susie Lippert.

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