

Music

“When we saw the approval message, we were filled with excitement, to say the least- and each year, it’s still exciting to receive the notice that our grant application has been approved.”

A majority of the grant’s funding goes towards maintaining the group’s summer schedule, which includes not only the Jam Session, but an entire concert series at Dykshoorn Park’s bandshell as well as their Kaleidoscope Variety Show and the PraiSing Music Fest at the State Capitol. The park events have given the local population more ways to spend their nights and encouraged other groups to take advantage of city

venues.

“The Summer Concert Series has led to the summer use of Dykshoorn Park,” said Cermak. It’s created opportunities for other non-profits to become part of our program and give back to the community. The concerts have also become an evening destination for many people in Mandan, Bismarck, and the surrounding area. Senior facilities even utilize the concert series as an evening out for the residents, and bring them by buses or vans.”

Nowhere is this idea clearer than at the events themselves, where residents turn out in droves to both perform in and cheer

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on the musicians in their community. Their support and enjoyment serve as a perfect example of why the grants are necessary, and as the population of Mandan increases, it only stands to reason that these celebrations of public creativity will grow alongside it.

The Association’s outdoor events have since ended, but the grant ensures that they will continue to host events throughout the year- especially during the next summer. More information on upcoming events from the Mandan Musicians’ Association can be found on their website at musiciansassociation.org.



MAKING MUSIC Musicians and guests alike gather in Dykshoorn Park to enjoy the annual Jam Session.
photo |Brendan DeLuca-Rodenberg

Seven students complete summer internships

Washington, D.C. – Seven college students, including four North Dakotans, are completing summer internships with Congresswoman Julie Fedorchak (R-ND) in Washington, D.C., gaining diverse perspectives on the inner workings of Congress, the legislative process, constituent services, and the federal government as a whole.

The interns include: Autumn Ketterling of Bismarck, ND, Audrey Duppong of Mandan, ND, Kayla Barral of Flaxton, ND, Zoe McK-inven of Harvey, ND, Will Specht of Howard County, MD, Jackson Leonard of Arlington, VA and Robin Reid of Perkasio, PA.

“This group of bright, hardworking interns were a great addition to our team in Washington,” Fedorchak said. “Each of them brought energy, insight, and a strong North Dakota work ethic to the office. From researching leg-

islation and attending committee hearings to helping with constituent services and giving Capitol tours, they were integral to our daily work. I’m proud of their contributions and can’t wait to see what they do next.”

Audrey Duppong, a Mandan, ND, native and student at Bismarck State College: “I enjoyed working for Julie’s team because of the amazing relationships and friendships I have established. The team here is awesome to work with, and I am excited to see everyone again sometime in my career and what we all end up doing! My favorite duty was giving tours of the Capitol building to our awesome constituents.”

The Washington, D.C. summer internship program gives students firsthand experience in the legislative process and a front-row seat to the inner workings of Congress. Interns also gain valuable insight

into public service careers and how North Dakota values are represented on the national stage.

In addition to their work in the office, interns attended a wide range of educational and professional events including speaking engagements, policy briefings, and networking receptions with Hill staff and leaders across government. They also continued their education beyond the Capitol—touring the White House, the Pentagon, FBI Headquarters, the Norwegian Embassy, and many of the Smithsonian museums.

Internships are available for the fall and spring semesters in the Washington, Bismarck, and Fargo offices. University students and recent graduates are encouraged to apply. Preference is given to residents of North Dakota or individuals enrolled in a North Dakota school.

Grant

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ment building where there seems to be a water hole and a mud hole there when we get rain during the fair. We wanted to fill that in and then put sidewalks down either side of the entertainment building to make it more accessible for the handicapped,” Boehm said.

A request for bids will be put together early winter in hopes contractors looking for work will accept the work total estimates, likely around \$80,000 according to Boehm.

“That [cement] project, we’ve had a couple different quotes that

we’ve actually gotten, anywhere from \$75,000 to \$100,000. We keep throwing ideas out there and hoping at some point one of them will stick and we get enough money to do that project. If we can’t get them down that far or contractors are way above that, it has to come out of our own pocket and we’ll have to see what we can actually do,” Boehm said.

This year’s Morton County Fair, which occurred over a 5-day period from July 30 to August 3, saw a total estimate of 4,500 fairgoers attend according to

Boehm.

Long overdue projects needed to be completed will continue to be put on hold until the necessary money is available. The cement project specifically is one that has been on hold for years but now has a chance of getting completed. “It’s such a large amount that we were kind of having to play with it and try and get there as we can. It’s either we get some grant funding here and there, or we don’t do projects. We set them aside until we can afford them,” said Boehm.

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The New Salem Historical Society will be hosting their Annual Open House on Sunday September 7 from 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. We encourage everyone to come visit our museum and & other buildings on site to see the many displays & artifacts we have to share!

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