

NEWS

Fifth grade and high school bands share center stage for April 7 concert



Pictured above are the Chariton High School band seniors. In the front row, left to right, are Justin Coughlin, Adrian O'Leary, Molly Colbert and Traci Green. In the back row, left to right, are Jordyn Kaufman, Chelsea Walford, Brett Morgan and Hannah Hedericks. Not pictured is Kolton Gilman. (Submitted photo)

The high school concert band and the fifth grade band will share center stage together on Monday, April 7 at 7 p.m. for their spring concert. Both ensembles are led by director Ryan Gruman.

The concert will start

with the fifth grade band which consists of nearly 40 members. They will perform short pieces that they've been working on the last few months. The concert will conclude with the high school band's selections and end with a senior

recognition. "This concert is pretty big for these students," said Gruman. "This is the first concert for the fifth grade band and the last high school concert for the seniors. It's one you won't want to miss."

There was an even further significance in this killing of the fatted

calf. The actual slaughter of the animal would take place in front of the doorway. Then, as the guests stepped across the blood of the animal that had been slain, it was a sign that the past had been left behind, that there was a new covenant or new relationship between the host and the guest. As the son then

stepped over the blood of the animal that had been slain, it was a sign of his father's total and complete acceptance and forgiveness. The father welcomed him back unconditionally.

The prodigal son didn't deserve that kind of reception, did he?

Many who heard Jesus tell this story were surely

offended that a boy who

had treated his father so

should get off so easily,

scot-free. Their discomfort is reflected in the envy of the elder brother. He had stayed home all these years and the

father had never killed the fatted calf for him. It

wasn't fair.

Paul Tournier, the

great Swiss psychiatrist

and theologian, emphasizes that Christianity is

the only religion in the

world which says that

God loves the unrighteous more than the

righteous.

The Father loves us

enough to let go. We are

free eternally, free to

choose our own paths.

The Father patiently

waits for us to decide.

He will not force His way

into our lives. But there

is unconditional love –

unconditional acceptance

awaiting our decision.

Our Heavenly Father

waits patiently for all

people to come to their

senses, He yearns to

share his love and accep-

tance with them. God's

arms are always wide

open and waiting.

Anderson gives first city manager's report at city council meeting

Bill Howes
Associate Editor

Chariton City Manager Doug Anderson gave his first city manager's report since becoming Chariton's new city manager at the city council meeting Monday, March 17.

"I want to say thank you to our fire department. Our Chariton Volunteer Fire Department has been working overtime with the number of fire calls there have been recently," Anderson said.

Anderson also told about some things he is currently working on as city manager including a vehicle rotation program.

"I am working on a rotation program whereby vehicles are brought into service for the city, moved from high-use departments to lower-use



Doug Anderson
departments, and then eventually rotated out of service," Anderson said.

Anderson also reported that he has been working to determine an engineering firm for the Sanitary Sewer Plant upgrades that are required by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR).

Anderson also said that he has begun work with Chariton Valley Planning and Development on a possible

community development block grant for the Court Avenue reconstruction project.

Council member reports

The city council members gave their reports next. Most of the council members didn't have anything to report except Dave Kuball, who reported on a couple of events for Chariton Area Chamber/Main Street (CAC/MS).

Kuball said that Wednesday, May 7, is the annual Chariton City Clean Up Day. "The Chariton Farmers Market is starting in May also," Kuball said.

None of the city staff members had anything to report. These included the city attorney, the city Building and Code Enforcement Officer, Police Chief, and the City Clerk.

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