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 Local events and music

WHAT'S HAPPENING

Students get smart

Get Smart Comedy goes tonight and Saturday at Vanier Hall, 2901 Griffiths Ave., at 7 p.m. Prince George senior secondary school Theatre Arts presents the hilarious Mel Brooks comedy Get Smart. Tickets are \$10 at the door or the PGSS office. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.

Hip-Hop Minstrel

Rumplestiltskin, The R-Dawg, Hip-Hop Minstrel is presented by the Kelly Road secondary school drama club tonight and Saturday at 7 p.m. It's a modern flair on a fairytale classic. Rumplestiltskin wants to be a hip-hop star but his overbearing mother and bratty sister make his life unbearable. Tickets at the door, adults \$10, students and seniors \$5 and children under 12 are free.

Bazaar Christmas

Christmas Bazaar at St. George's Ukrainian Catholic Church, 2414 Vanier Dr., goes Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Everyone is welcome to attend the bazaar to purchase items, including perogies, cabbage rolls, sausages, baking, and much more.

Craft fair

Blackburn Community Association Craft Fair goes Saturday and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at 2451 Blackburn Rd. South. Concession and door prizes. No entry fee. Items include baked goods, paper, textile, wood, metal and many other arts and crafts vendors.

Book signing

Local author, Neil Godbout, will host a book signing Saturday from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Café Voltaire at Books & Co., 1685 Third Ave. Godbout will talk about his two young adult novels, Disintegrate and Dissolve. Both books are currently on the shelves at Books & Co. These books are great for young readers that are exploring the world of dystopian fiction.

Concert

Family Christmas Concert at the Elder Citizen Recreation Association, 1692 10th Ave., Sunday from 2 to 4 p.m. The Forever Young Chorus & The Gospel Singers present Our Best to You at Christmas, a family concert. Admission is by donation, with goodie bags for the children. Refreshments to follow after the concert.

Open house

CBC Food Bank Day Radio Open House Friday until noon. Join CBC for live music, hot coffee, tasty treats, and a great cause. Drop by CBC to donate to your local food bank, watch Day-break's live radio broadcast, and pick up some great CDs and book packages by donation at 1 - 890 Victoria St. For more information call 250-562-6701.



HANDOUT PHOTO

Sarah Wildi, 16, is a member of the un-auditioned choir, District 57 Tapestry Singers. Here Sarah takes a moment with choral director, Carolyn Duerksen, before they rehearse for the upcoming Celebrate the Season concert Sunday at 3 p.m. at St. Michael's Anglican Church.

A mesh of young voices

Christine HINZMANN
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For some people music is just a nice way to pass the time, but for 16-year-old Sarah Wildi, it's what she breathes.

Wildi is a member of the District 57 Tapestry Singers, an un-auditioned choir, which means everyone who wants to make the commitment, can participate.

Sarah is only one of two original members of the choir that started in 2006 and in that time she's only missed a handful of rehearsals and that's the commitment it takes to be a Tapestry Singer.

The 22-member choir, along with special guests Nove Voce Choral Society, the Prince George Youth Orchestra, Maureen Nielsen on piano, Simon Cole on saxophone and Erica Skowron on oboe, will come together during a concert to Celebrate the Season on Sunday

at 3 p.m. at St. Michael's Anglican Church.

"Music is the one thing that makes me happy," said Wildi. "Some people like riding horses, some people like to bake, some people have sports and I'm one of those people who just love music and love to sing. It's one of those things that just happens inside of you and it fills you up."

The choir goes out into the community often and performs for the public, like appearances at the Prince George Chateau, Simon Fraser Lodge and St. Vincent de Paul Society.

"I was watching the people we were singing to and we could all just feel it. I know it might sound cheesy but I can really feel it in my heart when I sing," Wildi said, clasping her hands to her chest. "It's an experience that everyone feels - even when you're listening to music like the Beatles or Bon Jovi in your room - it just fills you and it's a passion and it's not just for one person - music is a universal language for everyone."

The Tapestry Singers choir, led by director Carolyn Duerksen, has progressed enough to perform a demanding repertoire, includ-

ing Sarah's favourite, Psalm 23, arranged by Canadian composer Srul Irving Glick.

"To be able to make a beautiful sound with more than just one voice with harmonies and singing in unison - for a group of exceptional singers to come together and to make extraordinary music is an amazing experience, especially for Prince George," said Wildi. "And Ms. Duerksen is a very big part of that."

The Tapestry Singers welcome new members in January. Contact Duerksen at cduerksen@sd57.bc.ca for more information.

During the concert the Tapestry Singers will perform a range of music including contemporary and traditional songs. The song list includes Go Tell It!, the French carol, Il est ne Le Divin Enfant, and on the lighter side, We Need a Little Christmas!, Winter Wonderland, Twelve Days of Christmas and A Charlie Brown Christmas.

Celebrate the Season Sunday at 3 p.m. at St. Michael's Anglican Church, 1505 Fifth Ave.

Tickets are at Studio 2880 or at the door and are \$10, age 10 and under are free.

Headline acts for Orpheus parade named

Stacey PLAISANCE *The Associated Press*

NEW ORLEANS — Actor Gary Sinise and New Orleans musicians Troy Trombone Shorty Andrews and Harry Connick Jr. will lead the parade of the Krewe of Orpheus on the evening of Lundi Gras, the day before Fat

Tuesday. They also will perform at the glitzy ball that follows.

The celebrity riders were announced Thursday at Mardi Gras World, where many of the Carnival floats are built. Orpheus marks its 20th anniversary when it parades Feb. 11.

The krewe was co-founded in 1993 by

Connick and Sonny Borey, the krewe's captain. It has about 1,200 members and is known for attracting celebrities.

Connick will perform an original song he wrote for the anniversary, called Smokey Mary Boogie Woogie Choo Choo. The song will be on Connick's upcoming album of Carnival music.



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