

EDITORIALS

BAND RESPONSE

If one were to really listen to the hip chatter that makes up the average television or movie dialog, it would be easy to assure that a high school band is a thing that naturally attracts cynical derision.

In real life, the local high school band obviously means a great deal more than that, both to the students who play the instruments and the community which listens.

What makes this importance obvious is the reaction to the situation the Whitefish high school band finds itself in at the moment with many of its instruments melted lumps of metal following the fire that demolished the WHS gym a month ago.

Along with the natural concern by parents, the public and the business community have embarked on a truly generous project to provide at least part of the wherewithal to replace the lost instruments and get the band back into playing form as quickly as possible.

Businesses have donated their receipts for the day to the band or have staged benefit nights. Citizens have conceived drawings and other types of fund raising projects to help the band replace its lost equipment.

Unsolicited donations have been received from as far away as the state of Georgia from people who have learned of the band's plight.

A recent picture in the PILOT showing the band marching without instruments in the Whitefish Winter Carnival parade has evoked comment from all over the state.

The importance of the band to the community is well documented by these events. But more important, the willingness of people to help, even in this callous age, is both well established and heart warming.

NVH asks cart workers to check in

Volunteer workers for the North Valley Hospital gift shop and patient cart are asked to call if they are unable to work at their appointed time. The gift shop calendar is with Betty Stadler, 862-4776, and the cart calendar is with Arleen Nelson, 862-4574. More workers are needed, according to a spokesman.

A correction concerning the Galley Wagon: the Wagon will serve food at the Loggers' competition in Kalispell in June rather than at Logger

Days in Libby.

The Auxiliary is asking that anyone interested donate flatware (knives, forks and spoons) for use in the Community Room for various functions. Donations do not have to be matching patterns and every little bit will help, said a spokesman. Donations can be left with Sally Porcarelli at the hospital or at the gift shop.

Flatware is especially needed before the style show luncheon on Saturday, APRIL 2, said Linda Trout, chairman.

PUBLIC FORUM

EVERY THURSDAY

Come One, Come All!

Dear Mr. Adams,

For your readers who don't know much about Flathead County government (and therefore cannot make an informed decision whether it needs changing or not), help is on its way! The Flathead County League of Women Voters has compiled a handbook, "Know your County", which describes the governmental units in the county and also the services available to its residents. The League hopes to make the booklet available to libraries, schools, businesses and individuals.

During the past year the Flathead County League has been involved in many other voter-education projects. They participated in the petition drive which was impetus for the Presidential Candidates' Debate on TV, sponsored by the national League of Women Voters. It also provided voter registration service, helped moderate a TV discussion on the proposals of our County Government Study Commission, presented a program on the ballot initiatives, co-sponsored a public Meet-the-Candidates Night in October and followed up in December with a panel discussion of major state issues by those candidates successfully elected.

This month the local League will be conducting its first finance drive to help in the publication of the "Know Your County" booklet and to help underwrite voter education projects. Any individual, service group, or business may contribute. For those who would like to participate in this strictly non-partisan study-action group, membership is \$15. Membership has been open to men, as well as women, since 1974.

The League also welcomes any suggestions about ways in which they can best serve the community. Suggestions, contributions, or new memberships can be sent to Chris Coolidge, Lion Mountain, Whitefish, or Carrol Bigler, 1315 4th Ave. East, Kalispell.

For Informed Citizens,
Claire Strickler