

FLORENCE RECORDER

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FIELD HONORS A6
Two Cougars in spotlight

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THURSDAY, JANUARY 9, 2014

BECAUSE COMMUNITY MATTERS

Guitar collection of Bad Seeds member on display

By Melissa Stewart
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FLORENCE — There's nothing quite like a guitar.

"There's some kind of aura about them," said John Reynolds a member of the former 1960s Northern Kentucky band The Bad Seeds. "When I got my first guitar, when I was about 14, that was the end of me. The music bug had gotten me."

Fifty years later, Reynolds, 64, has an extensive collection of guitars from the 1930s to the 1960s, some of which are worth thousands of dollars. A few of his prized possessions will be on display at the Florence Branch of the Boone County Public Library through January.

The Florence resident said he is excited to share his hobby and hopes it will spark an interest for music in others.

Florence branch library reference associate Ed McLaughlin was quick to organize the display.

"He has been a customer for as long as I can remember and guitars are always fun," McLaughlin said. "Mr. Reynolds is a nice guy and I have enjoyed talking with him in the past, he loves music, and I figured he cares enough to put on a good display."

McLaughlin has been planning exhibits for the library's display case since 2005. He said he's always open to suggestions. Residents, he said, are welcome to contact him at the library if they have an idea for the display



Florence resident John Reynolds shows off a 1967 Telecaster, part of his guitar collection now on display at the Florence Branch of the Boone County Public library. MELISSA STEWART/THE COMMUNITY RECORDER

See COLLECTION, Page A2

Interact Club hopes to make a difference

By Melissa Stewart
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FLORENCE — Erica Almquist wants to make a difference in the world. That's why she joined the Florence Rotary Club's youth organization, Interact Club, when it formed last year.

"Interact Club is a great opportunity for teens to get together and go out and help others," the 16-year-old Union resident said.

Since the club's introduction, members, ages 12 through 18, have been volunteering throughout the community. Now, their sights are set on making an impact on children in the Dominican Republic.

The group is selling copies of "The Lord Is Not Through With Me Yet," by Kaitlyn Rawlings to raise money for a trip to the Highlands Dominican Republic youth camp. There Interact members will assist youth camp leaders and build relationships with youths from the Dominican Republic.



Rahn

"I'm really looking forward to working without the kids there," Almquist said. "It's important to do things like this because it gives us, teenagers, a chance to not think of ourselves so much. It gives you a chance to think of others who maybe aren't as blessed as you. It's an opportunity to help people."

The youth camp is one of several throughout the world that is supported by the Rawlings Foundation, founded by John Rawlings, who was pastor of Landmark Baptist Temple in Cincinnati. Rawlings, who died last January, is known for his contributions to the founding of the Baptist Bible Fellowship, International Baptist Network and youth camps and colleges around the world. The book Interact is selling is written by Rawling's great-granddaughter

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Boone shelter accepting donations following fire

By Stephanie Salmons
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BURLINGTON — Despite a New Year's Eve fire that destroyed a dryer and caused smoke damage at the Boone County Animal Shelter, director Beckey Reiter says they are feeling very fortunate.



Reiter

Reisenbeck, a full-time firefighter with the Hebron Fire Protection District, were both on duty and acted quickly to contain the fire.

"We were actually very fortunate that it occurred while staff was here," Reiter said.

In a Dec. 31 post on the shelter's Facebook page, Reiter says the staff's quick response "not only minimized damage, their action saved lives."

"How fortunate," Reiter said. "The first firefighters I ever had on staff and both happened to be on duty at the time."

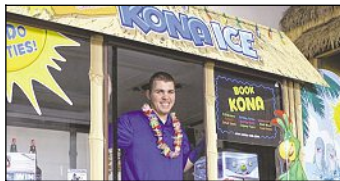


A New Year's Eve Fire destroyed the Boone County Animal Shelter's industrial dryer and caused smoke damage. PROVIDED

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HELPING OUT

Fellow employees aid co-worker
See story, A3



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Collecton

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case. "This to me is important because I get to use it to showcase people and events that are important to people in our community," he said. "This is a way people can share their interests with other people."

Reynolds is as interesting as his guitar collection. In the 1960s, he was the bass player of The Bad Seeds, a local band that landed a deal with Columbia Records. Other members were Lloyd McGlasson, Ernie Banks, Charlie Brown and Jerry Foster.

The group recorded a self-titled 45 in New York City in 1967, when Reynolds was 18. Their most popular song was "King of the Soapbox," he said. They worked in Jimmi Hendrix's Electric Lady Studio.

Reynolds said he enjoyed his brush with fame, including a tour in the U.S.,

but set aside his own guitar to raise his son, Eric.

Through the years he continued with his passion by growing his collection of guitars.

The first guitar he purchased was in the mid-1960s. It was a 1956 Paul Goldtop. He found it at a "hawk shop" in Downtown Cincinnati. It was \$300, a hefty price at that time, but "I was in love with it as soon as I saw it," he said.

In addition to collecting, Reynolds also works on guitars and is planning to build his own line of guitars called Reynolds Brothers Guitars, named in honor of his father and grandfather. He also plans to volunteer with Guitars for Vets, a nonprofit organization that provides a guitar instruction program aimed at giving veterans struggling with post traumatic stress disorder and other emotional distress a unique therapeutic alternative.

Want to continue the conversation? Tweet @MStewartReports

Club

Continued from Page A1

and chronicles his ministry.

"We want to build good will and friendship," said Barbara Rahn, who is the Florence Rotary Club's adviser for Interact Club. "Those are words we live by in Rotary."

Rahn said the Dominican children who attend the camp are from poor families and are often exposed to drugs and violence.

"The youth camps are a place for them to go and learn through Christian values that there is a better way of life," she said.

She said camp participants won't be the only one's learning that lesson this summer.

"We want to do this trip with our club so our kids learn what they can do for others," she said. "That's the way to live... we should all be responsible for others. When you do that, you get so much more in return."

Shelter

Continued from Page A1

"You plan and you drill and you practice for emergency responses and it's not until something happens that you know how effective your plan is," said Reiter. "This could have been such a devastating situation."

She said the fire was contained to the dryer; the replacement cost is \$5,000 to \$6,000.

While no animals seemed to be in distress Dec. 31, Reiter said on Jan. 2 two cats were showing signs of respiratory distress and were sent to the Greater Cincinnati Veterinary Specialists and Emergency Services in Wilder.

"We're just hand cleaning the entire shelter," said Reiter. "Now it's just a lot of smoke damage."

Boone County Admin-

istrator Jeff Earlywine said the county was pleased to learn there were no injuries, human or animal, and the fire caused no significant property damage.

"I think the employees, from all reports, acted quickly and decisively which played a part in minimizing property damage," he said.

According to Earlywine, the county is self-insured for the first \$20,000 of a loss and would pay any claims related to the fire from the county's insurance fund. That would serve as a way to address expenses that will not have a major impact on the operating budget of the shelter.

Despite the fire, shelter operations continue as normal, Reiter said. The shelter is open and has a "responsibility to the animals, and that includes getting them homes."

The shelter is accepting monetary donations as well as supplies to assist in cleanup including paper towels, Dawn dish soap, mop heads and blankets.

Donations can be dropped off at the shelter, 5643 Idlewild Road, Burlington.

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