

PRESS FROM DREAM BIG SERIES LATHAM HI-TECH SEED IOWA TOUR

TALL CORN FFA
HONORS A YEAR OF
ACHIEVEMENTS

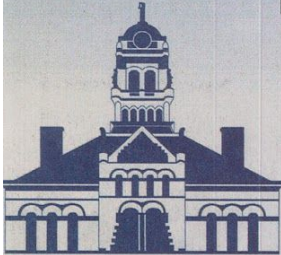
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SHEFFIELD SHOPS
FOR A CANCER CURE
WITH RELAY FOR LIFE
FUNDRAISING EVENT

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H-D BOYS AND GIRLS
KICK OFF TRACK AND
FIELD SEASON AT ISU
INDOOR MEETS

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HAMPTON

CHRONICLE

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WEDNESDAY | 03.27.19 | VOLUME 142 | ISSUE 13

UP FRONT

Brian Ayers benefit dinner

The public is invited to a benefit dinner for Brian Ayers at 11 a.m., Sunday, March 31 at the Bristow Fire Department. There will be a silent auction from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Donations will be accepted until March 28. Drop off donations or auction items at: Auto Parts Wholesale, Hampton; J&C Grocery, Dumont; or call to pick up Denny Swieter, 641-751-5346; Gary Lewis, 641-425-0906; Benji Ufford, 515-341-1178; Crystol Ufford, 319-215-5408; Brad Ufford, 641-425-4218; Tara Ufford, 641-425-4564



Kansas City-based country band Big Time Grain Co. performs at Hampton-Dumont-CAL High School as part of the Dream Big concert series, presented by Latham Hi-Tech Seeds. GREG FORBES/HAMPTON CHRONICLE

Take a look inside

NEWS

Windsor Theatre
celebrates

ROCK 'N ROLE MODELS

Country band brings high energy,
inspiration to area schools

BY GREG FORBES

Country band Big Time Grain Co. relishes a raucous crowd and if the quintet can pass on a positive message in the meantime - even better.

Area students received both last week as the Kansas City-based band stopped by West Fork, Hampton-Dumont and North Butler school districts to perform a few songs and tell their story as part of Latham Hi-Tech Seeds' first "Dream Big" concert series.

During a brief break in the performance, guitarist Chad Bourquin explained to the students at Hampton-Dumont High School that he never really considered life as a professional musician until he sat a similar assembly as last week's as a student himself. Seeing that band perform, he said, is what encouraged him to pick up a guitar. Chad said he enjoys the chance to share his story with students who may be in a similar position to him when he was their age.

"It's rewarding to do that and we get

to play music while we're doing it," he said. "That's what we love to do."

"We have a heart to make sure they're on the right path and encourage them however we can encourage them," added Bret Borquin, brother of Chad and vocalist for Big Time Grain Co. "I think the same spirit goes with this because we love seeing people latch on to what they feel like they're supposed to do and if they can get that support team around them, that's huge."

Shannon Latham, vice president of Latham Seeds, said the idea of the concert series was developed as a way to inspire students and to do so in an entertaining and engaging way.

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CONCERT FROM PAGE 1

“One of my passions personally, as well as Latham Seeds as a company, is helping encourage kids to follow their dreams and this just seemed to be a great fit,” she said.

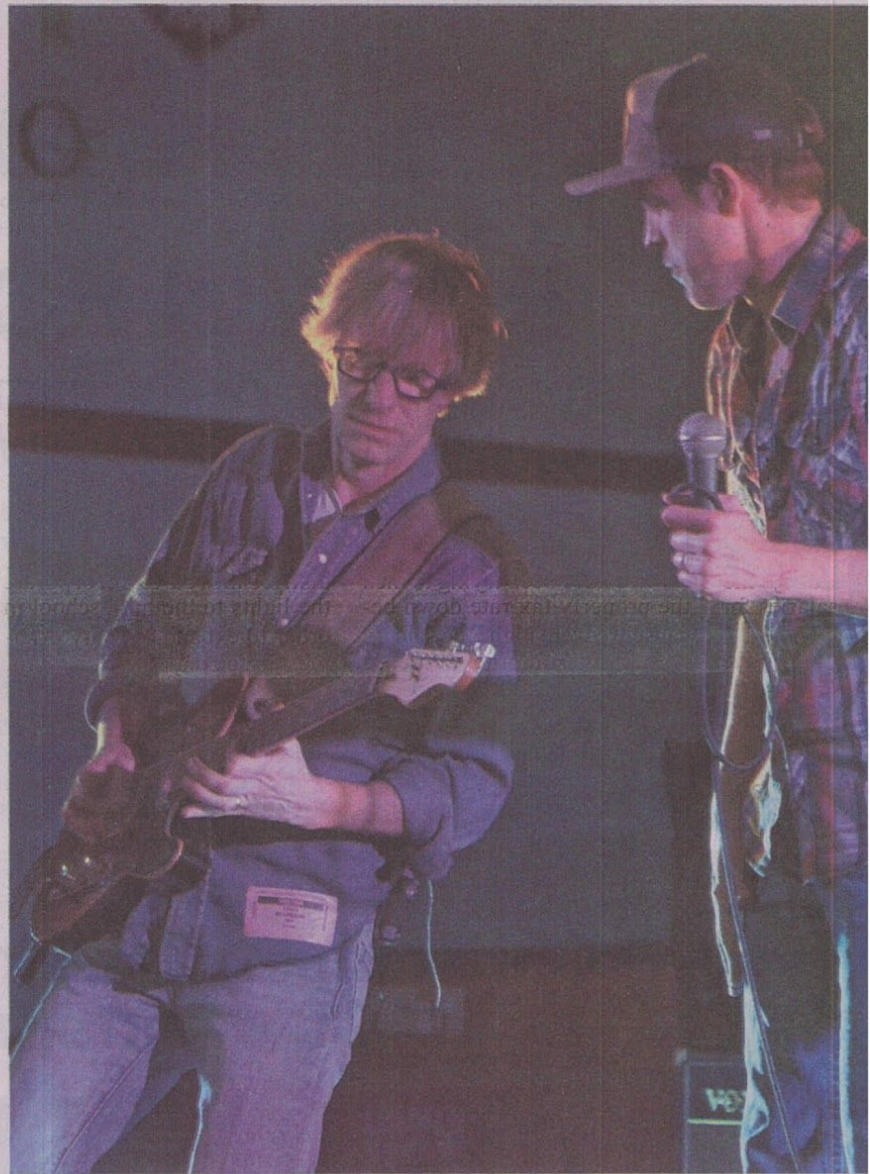
Latham said she met Big Time Grain Co. through a mutual friend who thought the band would be a perfect fit for the mission of the concert series. She said their interaction with the students and their story helped her know they would be a great way to kick off the series.

“One of the things that attracted me to them is their message of dream big,” she said. “We want our kids to be able to dream big right here in Iowa.”

She added that their example, coupled with Latham Seeds’ personal success story through entrepreneurship, combined to show that students can achieve their dreams in any location.

“We were all able to do what we wanted to do and find meaningful careers with our passions,” she said. “Kids in communities like Hampton and Sheffield, you know what careers other people are doing but you don’t always know what careers you could be doing so hopefully this concert series helps inspire kids to dream big.”

Following the performance, band members conducted a meet and greet and had the opportunity to hear from students who may have caught some inspiration from the concert. Chad said he cherishes the opportunity to hear from students with a similar story to his and that he feels privileged to have the chance to inspire at least one student. While he laughs at the thought that his career allows him to spread encouragement to students, he said he enjoys seeing students grasp on to the



Brothers Chad and Bret Borquin, guitarist and vocalist, respectively, for count Grain Co., perform for Hampton-Dumont-CAL High School students and staff
HAMPTON CHRONICLE

band’s story.

“I wasn’t thinking I’d be doing this (assemblies) at all,” he said. “I wanted to be a rockstar, but this idea of giving back came later but it came on the heels of meeting other people

giving back to us and making a difference in our lives. When you have that many people around you that care about you, you follow suit.”

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The Greene Recorder

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Motivational message sponsored by Latham Seeds -- Big Time Grain Co. Performs at North Butler

By Ross Hawker

North Butler's middle school and high school students were treated to a country music concert on Monday morning that not only got them moving but gave them a message about improving themselves and working to find the thing that they are passionate about.

The concert was sponsored by Latham Hi-Tech Seeds. Company co-owner and Greene graduate, Shannon Latham, was on hand to watch the concert.

"Big Time Grain Company does a series of high school concerts where they just want to inspire kids to dream big and pursue their dreams," she said. "Not to just do something to get paid but do something that they really want to do. It's a way to get them to think a little bit bigger than they might normally do."

Latham Seeds has sponsored the band's performances at West Fork, Hampton-Dumont and North Butler.

The band is led by brothers Chad and Brett Bourquin and is based out of Kansas City.

"There are two things that we try to get to the kids," Brett Bourquin said. "One is how to find what your 'zone of genius' is or what your dream is. How you identify that if you don't know. A lot of kids don't know. And once you know, what are some of the tools that we've used to help us get there. So we try to help them miss some of the speed bumps that we hit or the potholes."

Chad Bourquin spoke of four zones of life but urged the students to find their zone of genius.

"The four zones are:

"Your zone of incompetence are things we're not good at.

"Your zone of competence are things that we're better at but there are so many people that are better than us at.



The band Big Time Grain Co., pictured above in back, performed at North Butler on Monday to perform for the middle school and high school students. The band talked with students about following their dreams, and encourage students to be their best selves. In front are Shannon Latham of Latham Hi-Tech Seeds who sponsored the event and North Butler Principal Heather Holm.

"And your zone of excellence. This is where we can really get trapped because these are things that we can really get good at and maybe even start making money. This is not your zone of genius."

"And your zone of genius. This is where you are better than anyone you know and are more passionate about than anyone you know. When you are in your zone of genius - time just disappears. Once you figure it out, the next step is how do you get paid at it. Get better at it than anybody you know. And if you know someone that is better than you, ask them for help. Find people that

will help you -- that will work with you. Work on you harder than anything else. Turn yourself into the kind of person that is the kind of person that will attract the help you want.

The band is busy throughout the year.

"We do all kinds of concerts. This is one of the things we do," Chad Bourquin said. "The biggest thing that we've done is the world series celebration in Kansas City. There were 800,000 people there and we were the only band that played."

"This is the first concert that a lot of the kids see -- especially in the small towns."

"We created this whole thing

in 2005 with a different group."

Chad added. "We then created Big Time Grain Company about seven years ago. This is our second year of this concert series and this is the first concert in Iowa. We love Iowa. Our target is 80-100 concerts a year and we want to get to where we're doing 30 of these a year. When we started we did 30 in a semester. We won't do that again. We also have a Christmas concert series too that is like an hour of country Christmas songs. Then we do shows and openings for national artists."

Latham discovered the band on her own but got to know

them this year.

"A friend of mine, Aaron Putze, is with the Iowa Soybean Association," Latham said. "He was the first person I met in Des Moines after I graduated. We've been the best of friends for a long time. He knows that I'm very passionate about helping kids and inspiring them to dream big so he said I should meet Chad, so when I was in Des Moines for the state fair we had lunch together and as I heard more about the concert series I thought that this would be something that I would like

Big Time Grain Co.

Continued on page 3

Big Time Grain Co.

Continued from page 3

our company to sponsor. And I was really grateful that there were some high school administrators who would buy into music with a message.”

“They talk about finding your zone of genius and that you can get stuck in your zone of excellence. That’s a comfortable spot where you can make money but sometimes you need to step out of your comfort zone.”

“Thanks so much Big Time Grain Co. for the powerful message and to Shannon Latham and Latham Hi-Tech Seeds for sponsoring this event for our students,” North Butler Principal Heather Holm, said. “We are grateful that we have generous people in our community who think of the youth!”

“It was fun when the kids ran up to the stage. The kids were yelling, ‘One more song.’ I think they really enjoyed it.”

More information about the band can be found at big-timegrain.com.



The Sheffield PR

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Thursday, March 28, 2019

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NORTH IOWA CONCERT BAND
PERFORMS SPRING CONCERT
ON APRIL 2.....

FARM RESCUE HAU
NEBRASKA

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Rock 'n Role models

• Country band brings high energy, inspiration to area schools

BY GREG FORBES AND TRAVIS FISCHER

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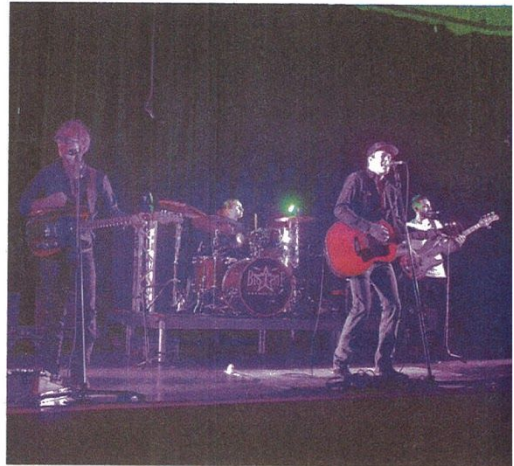
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West Fork High School hosted a special education concert by Big Time Grain Co. on Tuesday, March 19. PHOTO BY T

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CONCERT

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Bret said that he appreciated hearing dreams or projects students wanted to pursue and the chance to offer a word or two of encouragement is what makes the concert series a special idea.

"Even if it's just a word or a sentence, sometimes that's all it takes," he said.

The concert was well received at West Fork, which got a back-to-back performance for the high school and middle schoolers.

"It's an opportunity that I'm grateful we had brought to us by the Lathams," said West Fork Principal Bobby Willms. "Everybody that came to it really appreciated it and took something away from it."

Marking the return from spring break, Willms said that the concert exceeded expectations and fit it well with the school's approach to non-traditional learning experiences, such as their recent J-Term.

"It's one thing for parents to tell kids something or for teachers to explain something to students, but to have an outside source come in, a fun and successful group, come in and tell them the same thing their parents tell them," said Willms.

The Sheffield Press