

EVERYONE HAS A STORY

Young guitarist plays the blues

Local band to be featured at BluesFest

By Melissa Rigney Baxter
Special to The Freeman

WAUKESHA – Kyle Stair, 20, got his first guitar when he was only 6 or 7 years old.

However, he didn't really pick it up and start playing until years later, the summer before his freshman year at Waukesha West High School.

"My friend Tim got a bass, and I started messing around with the guitar," Stair said.

For Christmas that year he got a new, better guitar, and he's been playing ever since.

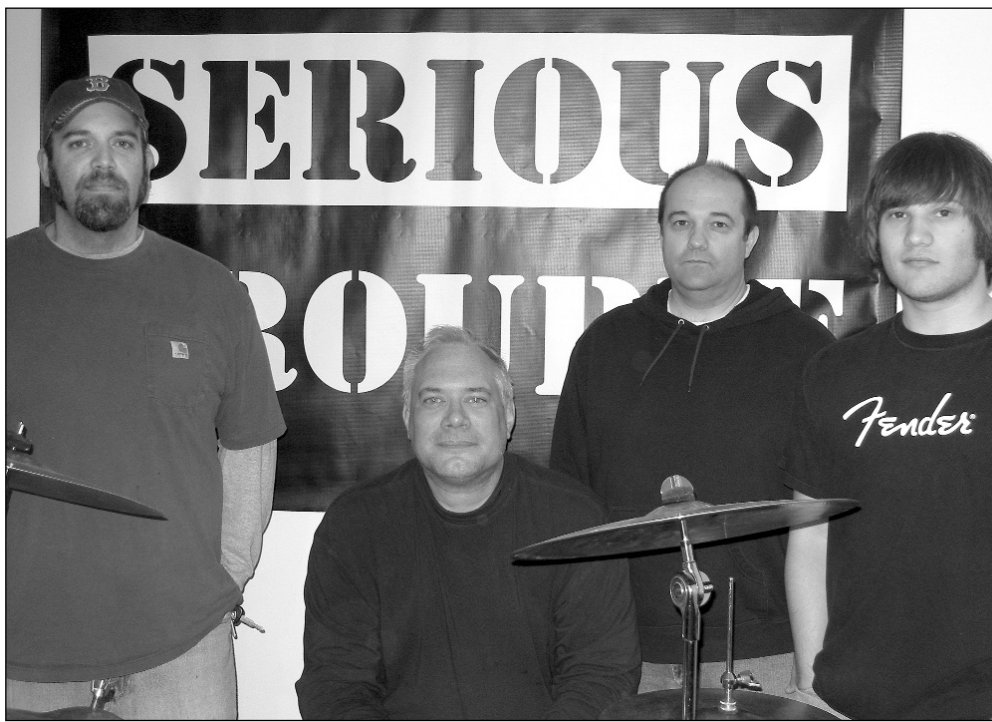
While some young guitarists explore pop or rock genres, Stair found his voice with blues music and was a part of The Blues Club at Waukesha West when he was a senior.

Among his influences, he said, are musicians such as Stevie Ray Vaughan, Albert King, B.B. King and Billy Joe Armstrong.

This year, he and his band, Serious Trouble, are playing at BluesFest on Aug. 14. The band is also giving a free show at Club Velvet on June 18. Featured at local venues throughout the summer, the full schedule can be found on the web at www.serioustroubleband.com.

"Right now we're focused on writing original music, but we probably play two times a month," Stair said.

The band plays all kinds of music, but for Stair, he



Kyle Stair, right, will perform with his fellow Serious Trouble band members, Andrew Turcotte, left, John Medler, second from left, and father Todd Stair, second from right, during BluesFest on Aug. 14.

said blues is the style he plays best.

Stair's band also features his dad, Todd, on the bass guitar as well as drummer John Medler and vocalist Andrew Turcotte.

While Stair has been growing musically, he hasn't lost track of his studies. He graduated from Waukesha West in 2008 with a 3.5 grade point average and was a four-year student athlete. Stair is currently pur-

How we found this story

Freelance writer Melissa Rigney Baxter received an e-mail from Kyle Stair's parents about his musical achievements. If you know of someone with a story to tell, send an e-mail to melissasuanne@yahoo.com.

...suing legal studies at University of Wisconsin-Madi-

son with the possibility of attending law school.

Balancing the focus on academics with music isn't difficult, he said.

"I've been playing for quite a while," Stair said. "I've got a pretty good routine."

The band's website features feedback from people attending shows, and Stair said many members of the band, such as his father, have years of experience.

From The FREEMAN files



ON THIS DAY in Waukesha County

78 YEARS AGO June 10, 1932

Twenty-five or more operators of "Monte Carlo" games in drug stores, ice cream parlors and soft drink establishments of Waukesha were warned yesterday afternoon by police to remove them before next Monday or arrests would follow.

Chief of Police Ben Enders on Thursday ordered officers Fred Hoefl and Mike Zick to inform all operators of these games of chance that in this city they are considered gambling devices and will not be tolerated.

As a result, many of the machines have either been moved to obscure corners of the room or labeled "out of order." Some, in defiance of police orders, are still in operation.

The games are of several types but all are operated on the same principle. A lever or plunger is used to shoot balls at a network of holes that are numbered according to the difficulty experienced in reaching them. When all the balls are "fired," the numbers on the holes in which the balls have fallen are counted. Highest score wins.

27 YEARS AGO June 10, 1983

EAGLE – The greyhounds will be off and running – again – at this year's Kettle Moraine Days.

But that's not so unusual; the county's history of greyhound racing goes back to the 1930s, when they raced where the Blue Mound Drive-in Theater now stands.

About 35 years later, the greyhounds were back, in 1968, for running exhibition races at Kettle Moraine Days. (Not the same dogs, of course.)

The dogs ran again in 1969 and were retired, becoming pets of members of Eagle Volunteer Fire Department.

Well, the dogs are making a comeback. (New dogs, same event.)

For this year's Kettle Moraine Days, June 24 to June 26, greyhounds will again be racing around the one-eighth mile track, chasing the perpetually elusive mechanical rabbit.

A couple of volunteers will be heading for Rapid City, S.D., in a few days to pick up 12 dogs, according to Terry Luedtke, fire department member and one of those organizing the event.

The dogs are being obtained with the help of Orin Benson, nationally known dog trainer (sort of retired) who knows the owner of the Rapid City dog racing track from where the dogs are coming, Luedtke said. It was a Benson's kennels in the Kettle Moraine State Forest in 1968 where the first batch of Kettle Moraine Days racing greyhounds had their pre-Days warm-ups.

– Local history compiled by Patrice Shanks; pshanks@conley.net

ALSO ON THIS DAY

June 10, 1610 – Englishman Lord De La Warr arrived at the Jamestown settlement to take charge of the Virginia Colony.

June 10, 1907 – Eleven men in five cars set out from the French embassy in Beijing on a race to Paris. (Prince Scipione Borghese of Italy was the first to arrive in the French capital two months later.)

June 10, 1940 – Italy declared war on France and Britain; Canada declared war on Italy. President Franklin D. Roosevelt, speaking at the University of Virginia, said the U.S. stance toward the conflict was shifting from one of "neutrality" to "non-belligerency." Jamaican-born Pan-African nationalist Marcus Garvey died in London at 52.

June 10, 1942 – The Gestapo massacred 173 male residents of Lidice, Czechoslovakia, in retaliation for the killing of a Nazi official.

June 10, 1964 – The Senate voted to limit further debate on a proposed civil rights bill, shutting off a filibuster by Southern senators.

June 10, 1967 – The Middle East War ended as Israel and Syria agreed to observe a United Nations-mediated cease-fire.

June 10, 1977 – James Earl Ray, the convicted assassin of civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr., escaped from Brushy Mountain State Prison in Tennessee with six others; he was recaptured June 13.

FLAVOR OF THE DAY

Today and Friday

Bubba's, 1276 Capitol Drive, Pewaukee
Today: Butterfinger
Friday: Pralines 'n Cream

Culver's, 1720 Highway 164, Waukesha
Today: Mint Oreo
Friday: Butter Pecan

Culver's, 840 W. Sunset Drive, Waukesha
Today: Cherry Pecan
Friday: Cookies & Cream

Culver's, 2600 N. Grandview Blvd., Waukesha
Today: Chocolate Covered Strawberry
Friday: Chocolate Caramel Twist

Culver's, 14855 W. National Ave., New Berlin
Today: Chocolate Eclair
Friday: Black Forest

Culver's, 3705 N. 124th St., Brookfield
Today: Just Drummy
Friday: Cookies & Cream

Culver's, 21300 W. Capitol Drive, town of Brookfield
Today: Butter Brickle
Friday: Kit Kat Swirl

Culver's, 1090 N. Rochester St., Mukwonago
Today: Chocolate Oreos Volcano
Friday: Peanut Butter Cup

Culver's, WI187-S7959 Racine Ave., Muskego
Today: Cookie Dough Craving
Friday: Kit Kat Swirl

Culver's, 1177 E. Summit Ave., Oconomowoc
Today: Rocky Road
Friday: Crazy for Cookie Dough

Culver's, W249-N6620 Highway 164, town of Lisbon
Today: Chocolate Dream
Friday: Strawberry Shortcake

Divino Gelato Cafe, 227 W. Main St., Waukesha
Today: Chocolate Mint
Friday: Velvet Vanilla

Kopp's Frozen Custard, 18880 W. Bluemound Road, town of Brookfield
Today: Turtle Sundae, Key Lime Pie
Friday: Mint Chip, Pralines 'n Caramel 'n Cream

LeDuc's Frozen Custard Drive-In, 31884 Summit Road, Wales
Today: Chocolate Almond
Friday: Root Beer

Merton Custard Shoppe, 7162 Main St., Merton
Today: Butter Cashew
Friday: Strawberry Delight

Murf's Frozen Custard & Jumbo Burgers, 1345 S. West Ave., Waukesha
Today: Red Raspberry
Friday: Snickers

Oscar's Frozen Custard, 21165 Highway 18, town of Brookfield
Today: Chocolate Truffle
Friday: Heath Bar

Sloppy Joe's, 280 W. Broadway, Waukesha
Today: Black Cherry
Friday: Strawberry

LOTTERY

Wednesday, June 9 WISCONSIN		
Pick 3		2-8-9
Pick 4		6-1-6-6
Megabucks	5-8-17-29-35-46	
SuperCash	6-16-18-19-24-36	
SuperCash Doubler:		No
Powerball	14-22-27-32-49	5
Powerball		5
Badger 5	14-18-19-24-27	
ILLINOIS		
Pick 3 Middyay		2-3-5
Pick 3 Evening		1-5-0
Pick 4 Middyay		4-6-9-1
Pick 4 Evening		6-7-5-2
Little Lotto	12-14-20-31-35	
Lotto	07-09-15-16-17-28	



How to get YOUR news in The Freeman

The Freeman wants your community news! We will publish the happenings at your schools and community groups – as well as everyday items – in this space on Page 2. But we need your help to get these announcements and pictures published. Submissions must be typed or e-mailed. No handwritten submissions will be accepted. Please send news items and photos to: news@conley.net

Helling graduates from West Point

WAUKESHA – Cadet Alexander Charles Helling of Waukesha graduated from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., on May 22.

He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Helling of Waukesha.

Helling graduated from Waukesha West High School in 2006. While at West Point, he concentrated his studies in human geography. He was commissioned as a second lieutenant in the U.S. Army with-in the Ordnance Branch and will report to Alexandria, Va., for his first assignment.

The mission of the U.S. Military Academy is to educate, train and inspire the Corps of Cadets so that each graduate is a commissioned leader of character committed to the values of duty, honor, country and prepared for a career of professional excellence and service to the nation as an officer in the United States Army.



Waukesha Metro driver recognized

Dave Haskins, bus operator for Waukesha Metro Transit, has driven without a preventable accident during his entire career of 27 years.

Haskins began his career at Metro in June 1983 and has been driving full-time since February 1984.

He has driven the equivalent of more than 26 trips around the world and transported tens of thousands of passengers for more than a quarter century without a preventable accident.

"It is an amazing feat of professional driving by Dave and we are thrilled for his accomplishment," said Tracy Harrington, director of Transit Operations.

Haskins has served on the Metro's Accident Review Committee.

"Operating a bus is an extremely safety sensitive position. We are responsible for the safe operation of a 13-ton vehicle, recognizing and reacting to the actions of other drivers and for the safety, comfort and well-being of our passengers," Haskins said.



Haskins

Waukesha Civic Band performs tonight

WAUKESHA – Waukesha Civic Band concert series begins tonight in the Les Paul Performance Center, 321 Wisconsin Ave.

The first performance will be by Jazz Express

and is sponsored by the Helgert family. Civic Band performances are held from 8 p.m. to 9 p.m. Thursdays.

Next week's performance will include music

from "Fiddler on the Roof" and Gene Stevens featured on a tuba solo, "Tubby the Tuba." The concert is sponsored by Waukesha Musicians Association Music Performance Fund.

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