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Red Devils on cloud nine



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Nashville clinic addresses hunger **PAGE A2**

HMS students bring history to life **PAGE A3**

How to snap out of a bad mood PAGE B5 Sabra & Friends: A holiday treat

By RICHARD LUKEN The Iola Register

By the end of the evening, Sabra Stockebrand and her fellow crooners have put visions of Bing Crosby dancing in our heads.

Stockebrand is the tour de force behind a powerful Iola Community Theatre ensemble called "Christmas With Sabra and Friends," a musical revue/variety show that runs Friday through Sunday at the Creitz Recital Hall at the Bowlus Fine Arts Center and at 7 o'clock tonight at Yates Center's Town Hall.

Filled with such standards as "White Christmas" and "Silent Night," Stockebrand stages and directs what is certain to be a holiday highlight for those seeking a crisp 80 minutes of musical magic.

She and fellow co-host, Burlington's Jim Stukey, set the tone for the evening with their opening number, "Let It Snow."

What follows is a medley of unforgettable holiday tunes featuring a number of familiar faces for local theater and music buffs.

Stockebrand shares the stage with Bryan Johnson ("The Christmas Song"), with Stukey once more for another "Holliday" classic — as

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Sabra Stockebrand and Jim Stukey serve as co-hosts for "Christmas With Sabra and Friends." **REGISTER/RICHARD LUKEN**

Training helps college better deal with sexual assault cases



The Sexual Assault Response Team (SART) met at Allen Community College Wednesday to discuss how to help college students with issues surrounding sexual assault. From left, ACC's Director of Student Life Ryan Bilderback, Iola Police Detective Jared Froggatte, Sexual Assault Nurse Examiner Alanna Busby, Hope Unlimited's sexual assault advocate Lisa Chauncey, and police response advocate Jaclyn Conkling. REGISTER/VICKIE MOSS

By VICKIE MOSS The Iola Register

When someone is the victim of sexual assault, the first person he or she talks to is critical. Knowing the right thing to say and how to help that person find the right resources can make a big difference in recovery, local advocates who work with sexual assault victims say.

When the assault happens to a college student or on campus, the first person the victim encounters is likely to be a residence hall staff member.

At Allen Community College, residence hall staff attend extensive training at least twice a year to help

them deal with those very difficult situations.

That type of training is just part of the work of the Sexual Assault Response Team (SART), a group made of local professionals including Sexual Assault Nurse Examiners (SANE), advocates from the victim assitance organization Hope Unlimited, law enforcement professionals, colleges and others.

Team members Wednesday with Ryan Bilderback, director of student life at ACC, to talk about ways they can help students who have suffered sexual assault and similar issues. Bilderback is the supervisor of the

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Vespers tradition returns

Started more than a century ago, Iola Vespers is the gift that keeps on giving.

The latest iteration of the Christmas choir will perform at 4 p.m. Sunday at Iola's First Presbyterian Church. There is no cost to attend.

Jan Knewtson directs the non-denominational choir, which will offer up a vast catalog of both sacred and secular Christmas songs.

The Vespers concert is one

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Jan Knewtson leads the Iola Vespers choir through a rehearsal Wednesday in preparation for the group's Sunday performance at Iola's First Presbyterian Church. The concert begins at 4 p.m. REGISTER/RICHARD LUKEN

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Sabra: ICT ensemble brings holiday cheer to the Bowlus

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in Billie Holliday — the iconic "I Can't Give You Anything But Love." She also is joined by her mother, Pam Tressler, with a show-stopping rendition of "Silent Night" before getting a chance to shine on her own with "Have Yourself A Merry Little Christmas" towards the end of the evening.

BUT AS has become tradition with ICT productions, the ensemble show has the audience tapping its toes from start to finish.

Bryan Johnson joins his father, Dan Johnson, for a memorable duet made famous by Crosby and David Bowie, "Peace On Earth/Little Drummer Boy."

Another Crosby standard, "White Christmas," is brought to life with the impeccable duo of Tressler and Richard Spencer, while Jim Gilpin and Gina Storrer are a delight with their rendition of "Silver Bells."

Meanwhile, Sara Standridge and River Hess serve up a charmingly spellbinding "Baby It's Cold Outside" thanks to a cheeky bit of role reversal.

Jessica Quinhones is captivating with her appeal for a visit from St. Nick with "Santa Baby."

The entire cast belts out a pair of numbers, the classic "Happy Holidays" and the more contemporary "In The Mood For Christmas."

A SPECIAL shout-out goes to a troupe of local youth dancers, Kylen





Among the performers in "Christmas With Sabra And Friends" are, clockwise from top left, Bryan and Dan Johnson; Richard Spencer and Pam Tressler; dancers Abigail and Gracelyn Weber and Jessica Quinhones. REGISTER/RICHARD LUKEN

Sturgeon, Jasmine Schlotterbeck, Sylvie Frakes, Brynna Welson, Alyssa Heffern, Adalyn Jackson and Abigail and Gracelyn Weber who periodically join the singers on stage.

The Webers also take the spotlight with the oh-so-fitting "Sisters."

And if that wasn't enough, the music gets an occasional bit of comic relief through commercial parodies, hawking such items as over-priced jewelry, to a public service announcement warning of a looming polar bear vortex. Those were penned by Piqua playwright Nic Olson who has written a number of plays and one-act shows for Allen Community College in re-

cent years.
Finally, a round of applause goes to Jeffrey
Anderson, music director at Allen Community



College, for his piano accompaniment for many of the songs.

THERE are endless holiday specials populating the airwaves this time of year.

Thanks to Sabra and her friends, here's a chance to reflect on just how special the holidays can be.

"Christmas With Sabra and Friends" runs at 7 p.m. Friday and Saturday and at 2 p.m. Sunday in the Creitz Recital Hall. Tickets sell for \$10 for adults and \$5 for students. Tickets for tonight's show in Yates Center sell for \$7 each, with \$2 earmarked to support the Town Hall.











DISCUSSION ON PROPOSED ALLEN COMMUNITY COLLEGE ACTIVITIES BUILDING

December 16, 2019 • 6 p.m.

Stadler Conference Room • Student Center

Representatives from the Iola City Council, Allen County Commission and Allen Community College will be on hand to answer questions and listen to suggestions regarding what should be included in the proposed new building.

Anonymous questions or suggestions can be sent to:
news@iolaregister.com or
iolaregister.com/activitiesbuilding